United Nations S/2001/913

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 September 2001

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

(for the period from 28 March to 24 September 2001)

I. Introduction

1. The present report provides an account of the activities carried out by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) during the past six months in accordance with the mandate entrusted to it by the Security Council in resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, 689 (1991) of 9 April 1991 and 806 (1993) of 5 February 1993.

II. Main developments

2. During the period under review, UNIKOM continued to monitor the Khawr' Abd Allah and the demilitarized zone, which extends 10 kilometres into Iraq and 5 kilometres into Kuwait along the boundary between the two countries. The situation in the zone remained generally calm, and UNIKOM carried out its monitoring operations from fixed observation posts and through patrols by land, sea and air. UNIKOM helicopter flights remained suspended on the Iraqi side of the border, as they have been since December 1998 (see S/1999/330, para. 2).

3. There were 255 violations of the demilitarized zone, of which 10 were ground violations, 8 were weapons violations, 74 were maritime violations and 163 were air violations. As in the past, most of the ground violations occurred along the border and involved Iraqi vehicles using the gravel road that crosses in and out of Kuwaiti territory.

4. The weapons violations comprised seven cases when uniformed Iraqi men carrying weapons were observed in the demilitarized zone, and one case when a passenger in a Kuwaiti police vehicle was observed holding a shotgun.

5. The 74 maritime violations involved, for the most part, Iraqi fishing boats that strayed into Kuwaiti waters while fishing in the Khawr' Abd Allah waterway.

6. Most of the 163 air violations involved jet aircraft that were heard, but were flying too high to be observed or identified. The Iraqi authorities, who monitor overflights through national means, maintained the view that UNIKOM should be

01-55246 (E) 270901

reporting a much higher number of violations and should identify aircraft by type and nationality. Despite the Mission's explanation that it cannot rely on inference or supposition in such a matter, and that there are no technical or intelligence means for UNIKOM definitively to identify the overflights, Iraq continued to complain that the reporting of air violations by UNIKOM was inadequate. The Government of Iraq has also addressed complaints to me to the effect that those actions enforcing the "no-flight zones" and other actions by aircraft of the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland constitute violations of the demilitarized zone that must cease. In this regard, it should be noted that UNIKOM has been recording as violations all flights observed or heard over the demilitarized zone. At the same time, the United States and the United Kingdom have stated that they continue to enforce and patrol a no-flight zone in southern Iraq.

7. The 19 complaints that UNIKOM received during the reporting period were all lodged by Iraq. Three were about weapons violations, one pertained to new observation towers erected by Kuwait at three of its police posts, 11 dealt with air violations and 4 concerned the illegal taking of photographs in Iraq by UNIKOM personnel. The four UNIKOM personnel who allegedly took photographs were withdrawn from Iraq and, following an internal UNIKOM investigation, disciplinary measures were taken against those who were found to have violated Iraqi laws and UNIKOM standard operating procedures.

8. Of the 22 incidents reported by UNIKOM over the past six months, several involved unexploded mines and other ordnance, which still pose a danger in the demilitarized zone, especially on the Iraqi side. Five Iraqi civilians injured in separate incidents of mine or cluster bomb explosions, including four children between 6 and 12 years old and one 18-year-old, were brought to UNIKOM patrol and observation bases in the southern sector. One boy died before he could be evacuated. The other casualties were evacuated by UNIKOM helicopter for emergency medical treatment. Two of the children who were operated on by the UNIKOM German medical unit were later reported to be in stable condition. The fourth child was released after his condition stabilized, but he reportedly died a few days later. The 18-year-old victim, who had been transferred to Umm Qasr hospital in Iraq, also reportedly died as a result of his injuries.

9. One incident concerned the refusal of Kuwaiti police to allow a UNIKOM patrol to cross at a gate in a fenced area, despite repeated requests to open the gate. This constituted a serious restriction of the Mission's freedom of movement.

10. Other incidents involved children throwing stones at UNIKOM armoured personnel carriers on patrol in populated areas on the Iraqi side of the demilitarized zone, causing in a few instances minor damage to the carriers. In each case, the Senior Iraqi Liaison Officer was informed and asked to investigate. His intervention generally caused the incidents to subside. However, after some time new incidents invariably occur, causing UNIKOM to seek help again from the Senior Iraqi Liaison Officer.

11. UNIKOM continued to make weekly visits to Umm Qasr harbour without obstruction. At the port, UNIKOM military observers were able to freely observe commodity shipments proceeding normally under the "oil-for-food" programme.

12. UNIKOM continued to maintain close and regular liaison with the authorities of both Iraq and Kuwait at various levels, including visits by the Force Commander

to Baghdad and Kuwait City and through the UNIKOM liaison offices in the two capitals. Both the Kuwaiti and Iraqi Governments continued to cooperate with the Mission in the conduct of its operations.

13. During the period covered by this report, UNIKOM received visits from high-ranking officials from 19 Member States. The visitors, mainly from troop-contributing countries, came to meet military observers from their respective countries and to familiarize themselves with the operations of UNIKOM.

III. Organizational matters

14. As at 20 September 2001, the overall strength of UNIKOM was 1,319, as follows:

(a) A total of 192 military observers, from Argentina (4), Austria (2), Bangladesh (6), China (11), Denmark (5), Fiji (7), Finland (6), France (11), Ghana (6), Greece (3), Hungary (5), India (6), Indonesia (6), Ireland (7), Italy (6), Kenya (3), Malaysia (6), Nigeria (5), Pakistan (7), Poland (6), Romania (5), the Russian Federation (11), Senegal (5), Singapore (5), Sweden (5), Thailand (5), Turkey (6), the United Kingdom (11), the United States of America (11), Uruguay (6) and Venezuela (4);

(b) An infantry battalion of 775 from Bangladesh;

(c) An engineering unit of 50 from Argentina;

(d) A logistics unit of 30 from Argentina;

(e) A helicopter unit of 35 from Bangladesh;

(f) A medical unit of 14 from Germany;

(g) A total of 223 civilian staff, of whom 56 were recruited internationally and 167 locally.

Major General John A. Vize (Ireland) continued as Force Commander.

IV. Financial aspects

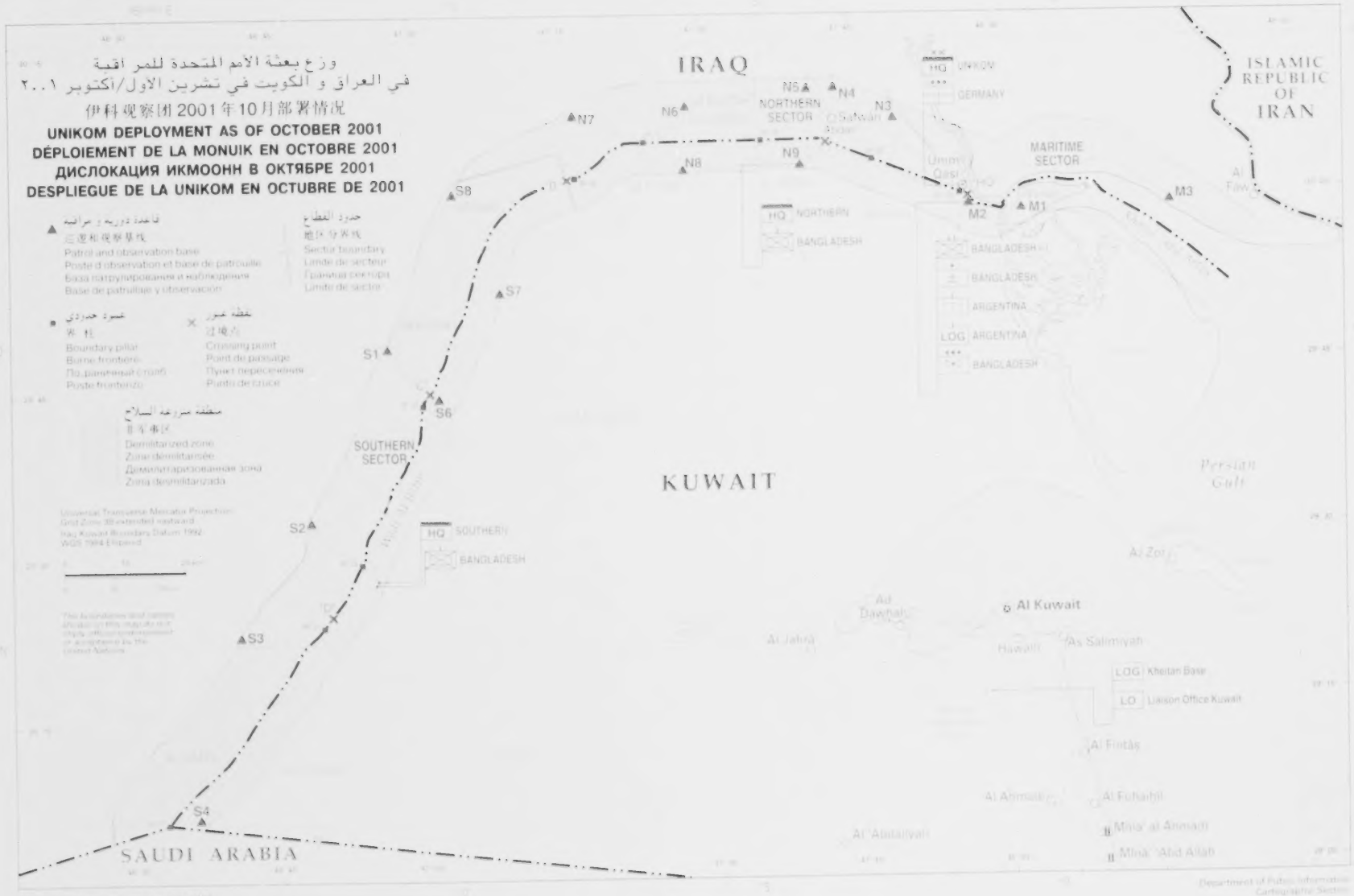
15. The General Assembly, in its resolution 55/261 of 14 June 2001, appropriated the amount of $52,815,237 gross for the maintenance of UNIKOM for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, subject to the review by the Security Council with regard to the question of termination or continuation of the Mission. Two thirds of the cost of the Mission, equivalent to $33.7 million, is to be funded through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait.

16. As at 31 August 2001, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for UNIKOM for the period from inception to 31 October 2001 amounted to $17.8 million. Unpaid assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations amounted to $3,321.1 million.

V. Observations

17. During the period under review, the situation along the border between Iraq and Kuwait remained generally quiet. UNIKOM continued to carry out its tasks smoothly, thereby contributing to the maintenance of calm and stability in the border area. In undertaking these tasks, it continued to receive the cooperation of the Iraqi and Kuwaiti authorities. I recommend that the Mission be maintained.

18. In conclusion, I wish to pay tribute to Major General Vize and to the men and women under his command for the manner in which they have discharged their responsibilities. Their discipline and bearing have been of high order, reflecting credit on themselves, on their countries and on the United Nations.


وزع بعثة الامم المتحدة للمراقبة
في العراق و الكويت في تشرين الاول/اكتوبر ٢٠٠١
伊科观察团2001年10月部署情况
UNIKOM DEPLOYMENT AS OF OCTOBER 2001
DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA MONUIK EN OCTOBRE 2001
ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ ИКМООНН В ОКТЯБРЕ 2001
DESPLIEGUE DE LA UNIKOM EN OCTUBRE DE 2001
IRAQ
KUWAIT
SAUDI ARABIA
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
NORTHERN SECTOR
SOUTHERN SECTOR
MARITIME SECTOR
N1
N2
N3
N4
N5
N6
N7
N8
N9
S1
S2
S3
S4
S5
S6
S7
S8
M1
M2
M3
HQ UNIKOM
GERMANY
HQ NORTHERN
BANGLADESH
ARGENTINA
LOG ARGENTINA
HQ SOUTHERN
Al Kuwait
LOG Khaitan Base
LO Liaison Office Kuwait
Persian Gulf
Patrol and observation base
Sector boundary
Boundary pillar
Crossing point
Demilitarized zone
Universal Transverse Mercator Projection
Grid Zone 38 extended eastward
Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Datum 1992
WGS 1984 Ellipsoid
Map No. 3837 Rev. 21 UNITED NATIONS
October 2001
Department of Public Information
Cartographic Section

United Nations A/56/410-S/2001/914

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 September 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 27 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith China's position paper on the fight against international terrorism (see annex). I should be most grateful if you would kindly circulate this letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Wang** Yingfan
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of China
to the United Nations

01-55405 (E) 270901

Annex

[Original: Chinese and English]

China's position paper on the fight against international terrorism

I. Terrorism, which endangers innocent lives, causes losses of social wealth and jeopardizes the security of States, constitutes a serious challenge to human civilization and a serious threat to international peace and security.

II. The Chinese Government opposes and condemns all forms of terrorism and is against using terrorism as a means of achieving political objectives.

III. The fight against terrorism calls for protracted and concerted efforts of the international community. It is imperative to strengthen international cooperation at all levels and establish an international anti-terrorist mechanism under the auspices of the United Nations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, relevant Security Council resolutions, all conventions against international terrorism and documents adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in this regard.

IV. China supports all efforts aimed at strengthening anti-terrorism conventions within the framework of the United Nations, including the early completion of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. China encourages all States to become parties to the existing international anti-terrorism conventions as soon as possible and to effectively implement such conventions.

V. In their cooperation to fight against international terrorism, all States should faithfully fulfil their responsibilities and obligations, including:

- condemning all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal and unjustifiable;
- taking necessary measures, in accordance with their national laws and international obligations, to cut off any financial, material and military support to terrorists;
- desisting from engaging in activities of organizing, abetting, assisting, financing or participating in terrorist acts in the territories of other countries, or acquiescing in or encouraging activities within their own borders that facilitate acts of terrorism in other countries, or sheltering, harbouring or conniving at international terrorists, or supporting or tolerating, for whatever reason or in whatever form and by whatever means, perpetrators of terrorist acts;
- taking appropriate measures to ensure that their territories are not used as terrorist training camps or to prepare or organize acts of terrorist activities against other countries or their nationals;
- arresting, prosecuting and extraditing perpetrators of terrorist acts in conformity with their domestic laws and provisions of relevant international treaties;
- making efforts to conduct international cooperation through bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements and arrangements, particularly by promoting all forms of information exchange helpful to the fight against terrorism, providing

legal assistance in terms of investigation, evidence collection, arrest and prosecution procedures involving acts of terrorism, and extraditing or handing over by other means criminals to relevant authorities of countries concerned, in accordance with domestic laws as well as obligations provided for in international treaties. Developed countries should provide to other Member States upon request necessary anti-terrorist technologies, financial assistance and training and help the latter to strengthen their anti-terrorist capacity-building.

VI. The United Nations and its Security Council should play a leading role in the fight against terrorism. It is recommended that the Security Council should establish an anti-terrorism mechanism to explore and formulate and conduct concrete programmes for the fight against terrorism.

VII. It is recommended that the United Nations Secretariat strengthen its capacity for information collection and analysis in the field of anti-terrorism and report to the Security Council periodically.

VIII. The fight against terrorism should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other established norms of international law. There should be a comprehensive approach, involving political, diplomatic, economic and other means, to address both the problem of terrorism and its underlying causes, in an effort to eliminate the root causes of terrorism.

United Nations S/2001/915

Security Council

Distr.: General
27 September 2001

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in that country

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 1233 (1999) of 6 April 1999, by which the Council requested me to keep it regularly informed and to submit a report every 90 days on developments in Guinea-Bissau and on the activities of the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS).

2. Members of the Council will recall that in my last report, of 22 June 2001 (S/2001/622 and Corr.1), I described efforts to stabilize the situation in the country and to strengthen the fragile democratic institutions in order to address the urgent political, economic, social and security crises the country faces. I also outlined the contributions of UNOGBIS to this process.

3. Following their consideration of that report, members of the Council, on 10 July 2001, in a statement to the press, reaffirmed their support for the efforts of the Government and the people of Guinea-Bissau to promote national reconciliation and strengthen democratic institutions and the rule of law. They also expressed concern about the unstable situation in the country and reiterated their call on the international community to continue to assist Guinea-Bissau in its economic rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts.

4. The present report covers developments since my last report and outlines the ongoing activities of UNOGBIS and other entities of the United Nations system in support of the country's peace-building process.

II. Political developments

5. During the period under review, the overall situation in the country has remained volatile. The political scene has been dominated by the Government's increasing instability in the face of an emerging institutional crisis resulting from differences among various institutions, representing different branches of power, over their constitutional responsibilities. As the opposition has continued its demands for the resignation of both the Government and the Prime Minister, Faustino Imbali, the inexperienced Government has been rendered practically non-functional, while the delay in the investigations of its alleged embezzlement of US $17 million has further eroded its credibility.

6. Adding to political uncertainty, none of the three major political parties, largely owing to internal procedural difficulties, has been able to hold a national congress to clearly define its post-electoral strategies and priorities.

7. By mid-September, a number of President Kumba Yala's controversial decisions had resulted in a rift between him and his own party and had provoked a strong resistance on the part of major political actors, especially the judiciary.

8. The President's earlier decision to suspend the activities of a Muslim group and to expel from Guinea-Bissau its leaders, whom he accused of contributing to the country's instability, was deemed by the legal authorities to be unconstitutional. His subsequent decision to dismiss the President of the Supreme Court

01-55053 (E) 270901

and three of its judges was also qualified as unconstitutional.

9. Finally, the media's frequent use of the newly acquired freedom of expression in an unrestrained manner, disregarding the fragility of the post-conflict political process, has also contributed to an acrimonious political atmosphere. On their part, government functionaries have often overreacted to even valid critical comments from the media, sharpening political differences.

10. On the positive side, despite the difficult political climate, the National Assembly has continued its efforts to assert its role as a check on the executive, including its oversight responsibilities in the management of the national treasury. The report of its commission to investigate the alleged embezzlement of $17 million and to recommend procedures enhancing the fiscal control of the national treasury has been completed, although it has yet to be made public. A parallel investigation by the Attorney-General commissioned by the Prime Minister appears to be suspended, however, reportedly for lack of funds.

11. In an important legislative initiative, the National Assembly, before going into recess last August, approved draft revisions to the Constitution submitted by its Technical Committee. That Committee was established to bring the country's constitution into line with internationally recognized norms. The revisions include, among others, amendments to article 5, which would bar citizens of Guinea-Bissau who have only one parent indigenous to the country from high office. The revised Constitution now awaits the President's approval.

12. In another encouraging step, notwithstanding their differences, all political parties have agreed that municipal elections should be held early next year. Electoral preparations continue, although financial constraints hamper effective planning for these elections. Once the National Assembly, which will resume its work in November, enacts the necessary electoral law, the Government would seek the international community's financial assistance for the conduct of the elections.

13. During the reporting period, my Representative continued his efforts to promote dialogue and to mobilize civil society groups and individuals, especially the Bishop of Bissau, to lessen tensions at critical junctures in order to stabilize the situation. Given the precariousness of the political situation, however, there is fear that the ongoing institutional tensions may plunge the country back into instability.

III. Military and security aspects

14. The situation along the border with Senegal remains precarious, as the withdrawal of regular Bissau Guinean troops from the border region, with only border guards left in place to provide security, has left the situation there tense and delicate. Military hostilities between regular Bissau Guinean forces, deployed to the border region to contain the activities of rebel forces of the Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance (MFDC), have somewhat subsided, and factional fighting within MFDC in Bissau Guinean territory also appears to have stopped. The danger of renewed rebel activities in that region remains acute, however, and mines laid around the border regions in the north of the country continue to make life in the area insecure.

15. The volatility of the border regions continues to hamper progress in the reorganization of the army. Nevertheless, the military authorities have just completed the draft plan for the restructuring of the army. A number of countries with traditional ties to Guinea-Bissau in the military field have pledged to collaborate with the political and military authorities of the country in the planning and the execution of the reform plan. There is still a long way to go before any such plan becomes reality, however.

16. Instability in the border regions also causes delays in the implementation of the Programme of Demobilization, Reinsertion and Reintegration, which the World Bank estimates might require approximately $17 million. Progress, however, has been made. The first meeting of the National Council on the Programme of Demobilization, Reinsertion and Reintegration, held on 7 September 2001, concluded that, by 31 August 2001, the first stage of the Programme had been completed, including the census, in which 23,803 candidates had been counted. To implement the second stage, which envisages the demobilization of 5,000 persons, the Programme is collaborating closely with the International Organization for Migration, the World Bank and other donors.

17. In the meantime, the military authorities have reiterated their commitment to the non-recruitment of child soldiers. They have also provided to my Representative the names of 600 child soldiers recruited during the civil war who are to be discharged and reintegrated into civilian life. To that end, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and UNOGBIS are jointly preparing a set of measures to help ensure that these children return to their families and are reintegrated as productive members of the society.

18. With regard to the Government's programme of civilian disarmament, a team of experts from the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, at Lomé, visited Guinea-Bissau from 9 to 16 July 2001 to explore conditions on the ground for the implementation of the project of collection of illegal arms from the civilian population. The team's practical recommendations including sources of funding are expected to be completed in the near future.

19. Meanwhile, although slowed down by the recent rainy season, the mine-clearing process in the Bissau area has continued and 1,600 mines have so far been removed. With additional funds provided by the Governments of Germany and the United States of America, the programme will be able to continue the removal of the estimated 5,000 mines that still remain planted.

IV. Economic and social aspects

20. On the economic front, pervasive poverty in the country continues to pose a threat, as stability cannot be achieved without a noticeable improvement in the daily life of the population. Such improvements are yet to come, however, and public sector employees continue to agitate for wage increases and improved distribution of wage supplements in the form of food rations. While unpaid salary arrears to civil servants and the military are raising social discontent to dangerous levels, unemployment and under-employment rates, especially among young people, remain extremely high, luring restless young people, in the search for means of existence, into criminal activities and prostitution.

21. Further aggravating the economic situation, this year's crop of cashew nuts, the country's main revenue earner, has been half the estimated output. With foreign assistance accounting for some 80 per cent of the national budget and the income from custom duties reduced to a very low level, the resulting loss of revenue adds to the already grave liquidity crisis that confronts the Government. The economy is virtually on the verge of collapse and the Government has barely enough resources to meet its most urgent domestic obligations, principally the payment of salaries and the maintenance of critical social infrastructure, and only for a very short period of time.

22. The health sector has been particularly affected by the lack of resources. The statistics of fatalities among women and children are dismally high. The infant mortality rate is estimated at 124 per 1,000, while the death rate of children under 5 years is put at 203 per 1,000, with HIV infection rising rapidly.

23. The food situation, largely because of the miserable 2001 cashew nuts crop and the vagaries of weather conditions affecting food crops, is also becoming critical. The World Food Programme (WFP) is providing emergency food supplies to vulnerable families, but the security situation in the north of the country has often hampered WFP plans to cover the whole national territory in its operations. This important effort however is hardly enough and a food crisis appears to be looming.

24. In the meantime, the round-table conference, now planned for January-February 2002, will depend on the results of the World Bank/International Monetary Fund mission, planned for November 2001, whose report will be considered by the IMF Board, possibly in December.

25. As a follow-up to President Yala's visit to Nigeria in June 2001, a Nigerian economic mission visited Bissau in August to further explore with Bissau Guinean authorities avenues of bilateral collaboration, as well as ways to further integrate Guinea-Bissau's economy into the mainstream of subregional economic development.

V. Human rights

26. Guinea-Bissau's Human Rights Commission is becoming an active actor in the protection of human rights, while the Government has established an Inter-

Ministerial Committee responsible for reporting to the competent United Nations bodies on the progress in the country's implementation of the United Nations treaties and conventions Guinea-Bissau has signed.

27. During the period under review, UNOGBIS continued to maintain close contacts with national authorities and the judiciary to monitor the human rights situation in the country. In an initiative to further strengthen national capacity in the promotion of human rights, UNOGBIS, in collaboration with the Ministries of Defence and Internal Administration, the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland at Dakar and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, organized at Bissau, on 11 and 12 July, a conference on the role of the national army and the police in the promotion and protection of human rights, which was attended by senior representatives of the military and the police.

28. All but seven, alleged to be MFDC rebels, of the persons detained in the aftermath of the events of November 2000 have been released pending trial. Owing, however, to the lack of resources, both financial and human, trials are yet to commence.

29. To enhance the professional capacity of the judiciary to ensure due judicial process in the country, including the speedy trial of the released detainees, UNOGBIS is preparing another refresher course for magistrates.

30. In the wake of the withdrawal of regular Bissau Guinean troops from the border with Senegal, a UNOGBIS human rights team visited border regions to assess the human rights situation. During its meetings with local civilian and military authorities, the mission made its recommendation with regard to their obligation to respect the human rights of civilians, including refugees.

VI. Observations

31. Despite some positive developments, the overall situation in Guinea-Bissau remains dangerously unstable. The country's widespread economic and social problems have prevented the few democratic advances achieved over the past few months from taking root. Tangible dividends of democracy remain illusory for the people. Institutional tensions, an inexperienced Government and the lack of transparency in governance constitute added sources of instability.

32. I have been exploring with the Economic Community of West African States and other friends of Guinea-Bissau ways and means of assisting the Government of President Yala to stabilize the political situation. In the meantime, I call on the political actors at all levels in Guinea-Bissau to maintain dialogue and refrain from any actions that threaten national unity and the constitutional order.

33. In this early and fragile phase of post-conflict peace-building, it is essential to safeguard the independence of the judiciary. In this connection, I wish to reiterate my previous appeals to the international community for urgent technical and financial assistance to a weak judiciary that labours under very difficult circumstances.

34. Early engagement is crucial to reversing conditions of instability in Guinea-Bissau. With the assistance of UNOGBIS and the United Nations entities in Guinea-Bissau, some windows of opportunity remain open, but such windows may vanish quickly if they are not fully exploited. Without improvements in the daily lives of the population, the present precarious political situation, if left unattended, may ignite a new round of open conflict. It is imperative that effective measures to relaunch the economy be taken, with particular focus on helping the most vulnerable groups in the society.

35. I appeal therefore to all bilateral and multilateral partners of Guinea-Bissau, in addition to actively participating in the forthcoming round-table conference, to explore in the interim other mechanisms and arrangements, including through international and national non-governmental organizations, to speedily assist the people of Guinea-Bissau in re-establishing income-generating activities and energizing its private sector.

36. Finally, I wish to pay tribute to my Representative, Samuel Nana-Sinkam, and to the staff of the entire United Nations country team for their dedicated efforts to help keep the peace-building process in Guinea-Bissau on course, despite multiple challenges.

United Nations S/2001/916

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 September 2001

Original: English

Bangladesh, Colombia, Jamaica, Mali, Mauritius, Singapore, Tunisia and Ukraine: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1044 (1996) of 31 January 1996, 1054 (1996) of 26 April 1996 and 1070 (1996) of 16 August 1996,

Noting the steps taken by the Government of the Sudan to comply with the provisions of resolutions 1044 (1996) and 1070 (1996),

Noting in that respect the communications from the Permanent Representative of South Africa on behalf of the Non-aligned Movement, and the Permanent Representative of Algeria on Behalf of the League of Arab States and the Permanent Representative of Gabon on behalf of the African Group (S/2000/521, S/2000/517 and S/2000/533), and from the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity dated 20 June 2000,

Noting further the letter of the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, dated 5 June 2000, and the letter of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, dated 9 June 2000 supporting the lifting of sanctions imposed on the Republic of the Sudan,

Noting also the contents of the letter dated 1 June 2000 from the Minister of External Relations of the Republic of the Sudan addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (S/2000/513),

Welcoming the accession of the Republic of the Sudan to the relevant international conventions for the elimination of terrorism, its ratification of the 1997 International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombing and its signing of the 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to terminate, with immediate effect, the measures referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of resolution 1054 (1996) and paragraph 3 of resolution 1070 (1996).

01-55634 (E) 280901

United Nations A/56/414-S/2001/917

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 September 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 27 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing to request that the letter that was handed to you yesterday at your meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Argentina, Adalberto Rodriguez Giavarini, be distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Arnoldo M. **Listre**
Ambassador

01-55511 (E) 270901 270901

Annex to the letter dated 27 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]

New York, 26 September 2001

I have the honour to address myself to you at a time when the international community is having to face one of the greatest challenges that has ever arisen, as a consequence of the terrorist attacks perpetrated against the United States of America on 11 September 2001 and the grave threat posed by these criminal acts.

The Argentine Republic fully associates itself with all aspects of resolutions 1368 (2001) of the Security Council and 56/1 of the General Assembly as expressions of the international community's commitment to use all means at its disposal to eradicate the global threat to peace and security represented by terrorism.

This position coincides with the position unequivocally taken by Argentina, as a member of the Security Council, when the statement by the President of the Council of 29 July 1994 (S/PRST/1994/40) was adopted in connection with the terrorist attacks committed in Buenos Aires and London during that month, and is also consistent with Security Council resolution 1269 (1999) of 19 October 1999.

In this new situation, Argentina announces its decision to collaborate actively in the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council, especially as regards working together urgently to bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of terrorist acts, as well as to hold accountable those who assist, support or protect them. At the same time, Argentina expresses its readiness to support other actions adopted within the framework of paragraph 5 of the above-mentioned resolution of the Security Council.

The terrorist acts that took place in the United States of America on 11 September 2001 brutally remind us that terrorism is a criminal and perverse method whose main victim is the innocent civilian population. In order to confront it, we have to act with conviction and in a coordinated way within the framework of a worldwide coalition.

Argentina, which in 1992 and 1994 was the victim of grave terrorist attacks of the same kind, stresses the need for a sustained international response.

The United Nations has a duty to promote measures to enable States, individually or collectively, to prevent and combat international terrorism in all its forms, through, inter alia, the elaboration and effective application of universal legal instruments. In this respect, Argentina has ratified the great majority of the conventions on terrorism which are in force and is moving ahead with the process of ratifying the rest.

At the domestic level, States must in turn develop the necessary norms to this end. In this respect, our country reiterates its firm commitment to continue to take all legislative, police, intelligence, financial and other measures to contribute to this common struggle.

At the inter-American level, Argentina supported the convening of the meeting of ministers for foreign affairs of the Organization of American States and the

meeting of ministers for foreign affairs within the framework of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance. At these meetings, Argentina supported effective reciprocal assistance, the convening of a meeting of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, the elaboration of a draft inter-American convention against terrorism and the mandate given to the Commission on Hemispheric Security to accelerate its work with a view to holding a special conference on security.

My Government will continue to work within the framework of the United Nations with the goal of achieving concrete measures to confront this grave threat to international peace and security and civilized coexistence.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Adalberto **Rodriguez Giavarini**

United Nations A/ES-10/112–S/2001/918

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 September 2001

Original: English

Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 27 September 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Yesterday, around midnight (Palestine time), several Israeli tanks and bulldozers moved into a Palestinian-controlled area towards the Palestinian refugee camp in Rafah in the Gaza Strip. Israeli tanks shelled the city while Israeli troops used tank's machine-guns to fire at the camp. The Israeli attack resulted in the killing of three Palestinian residents of the camp and the injuring of 27 Palestinians, some of whom remain in serious condition. In addition, Israeli tank shells and bulldozers destroyed 16 homes belonging to Palestinian families. Israeli occupying forces committed the above knowing very well that the Palestinian side sent 300 additional Palestinian police to the area of Rafah to ensure calm in the area — a step which was coordinated with the Israeli side. Also today, Israeli occupying forces killed two more Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, including a 15-year-old boy.

This new crime was committed immediately after an important and successful meeting was held between President Yasser Arafat and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, in which the two sides agreed to take concrete steps to strengthen the ceasefire and to implement Senator Mitchell's recommendations for the resumption of negotiations and the conclusion of a final settlement. It appeared to be precisely an attempt to destroy the results of the meeting and to prevent any progress on the ground. Influential circles of the Israeli Government have publicly manifested their opposition to taking any serious actions with the aim of changing the situation in a positive way. They tried to make any step in that direction as hard as possible in spite of international efforts, including the increased efforts of the United States Administration in the wake of the tragedy that took place on 11 September 2001.

A glaring example of such Israeli attempts to escalate the conflict was the decision made by the Israeli Government on 24 September 2001 to establish a closed military zone, called a "buffer zone", in the West Bank along its border with Israel. That "buffer zone" would be 30 kilometres long and approximately 1 kilometre wide creating an area that would be off limits to Palestinians, with the exception of Palestinian inhabitants of the area, who will be required to carry a new

01-55554 (E) 280901

Israeli permit. Of course, the international community has already strongly condemned the establishment of such a closed military zone.

I am writing this letter in follow-up to our previous 68 letters addressed to you regarding this grave and ongoing situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 17 September 2001 (A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826 and A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880). I regret to inform you that since my last letter to you, dated 17 September 2001, Israeli occupying forces have killed 13 more Palestinians, including the number of martyrs mentioned above. (The names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

Tomorrow will mark the passage of one year since the infamous visit of Mr. Ariel Sharon to Al-Haram Al-Sharif in Occupied East Jerusalem and the launching of the bloody Israeli military campaign against the Palestinian people, during which State terrorism and war crimes were committed against the Palestinian people. During that period, Israeli occupying forces have killed 646 Palestinian civilians and have injured more than 20,000, many of whom will be left with permanent disabilities.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 27 September 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Tuesday, 18 September, through 27 September 2001)

Tuesday, 18 September 2001

1. Abdel Majeed Daghles
2. Ismaeel Abdel Hadi Al-Dawoodi

Wednesday, 19 September 2001

Malek Abdel Jaber Tameem Salem (from wounds sustained earlier)

Saturday, 22 September 2001

1. Imad Hamdi Saleh Awad (from wounds sustained earlier)
2. Abdel Latif Hassan Radwan

Sunday, 23 September 2001

Nasrallah Mohammed Jarghoun

Tuesday, 25 September 2001

Ommayah Hamdan Abdallah Omran

Wednesday, 26 September 2001

Mahmoud Jalal Qishtah (16 years old)

Thursday, 27 September 2001

1. Khaled Abu Habib
2. Mahmoud Fathi Al-Sha'er
3. Akram Abdel Jawad Abu Libdeh
4. Ali Salem Abu Bileman
5. Moawiah Ali Al-Nahal (16 years old)

---

* Total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 = 646.

United Nations S/2001/919

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 September 2001

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 1360 (2001)

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 1360 (2001) of 3 July 2001, in which I was requested to provide a comprehensive report to the Council 90 days after the entry into force of the resolution on its implementation. It describes the developments in the implementation of the humanitarian programme in Iraq pursuant to resolution 986 (1995) since my latest report, covering the period up to 1 May 2001, which was submitted to the Council on 18 May 2001 (S/2001/505). Unless stated otherwise, the cut-off date for the data contained in the present report is 31 August 2001.

2. On 23 July 2001, the Government of Iraq, pursuant to paragraph 8 (a) (ii) of Security Council resolution 986 (1995), submitted for my consideration and approval its distribution plan for the new period (phase X) specified in paragraph 1 of resolution 1360 (2001). The distribution plan (S/2001/758) was approved on 1 August 2001.

3. The effective implementation of the humanitarian programme countrywide continues to face a number of serious difficulties and obstacles to which I have drawn the Council's attention repeatedly in my previous reports and which have also been brought regularly to the attention of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1999) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, by the Office of the Iraq Programme.

4. The programme has suffered because of the cumbersome procedures in the formulation and late submission of the distribution plan, which has been subjected to hundreds of amendments, starting soon after its approval and throughout a given phase and beyond; slow contracting for essential supplies by both the Government of Iraq and the United Nations agencies and programmes; and the inordinate delays in the submission of applications for such contracts to the Secretariat on the part of both the suppliers and the agencies and programmes concerned. Despite difficulties encountered in the approval of applications, there are considerable delays in the opening of letters of credit for large numbers of already approved applications owing to slow action thereon by the Central Bank of Iraq. The unacceptably high level of holds placed on applications by the Committee, with a total value of over $4 billion, continues to affect adversely the efficient implementation of the programme. Furthermore, the absence of an agreement on the implementation of a cash component as envisaged in resolution 1284 (1999) continues to hamper severely the implementation of the programme.

5. Programme implementation has also suffered considerably because of the substantial reduction in revenues received from oil exports when the volume of oil exports under the programme has been reduced or totally suspended by the Government of Iraq, despite the Council's lifting the ceiling on oil revenues. As at 15 September, there were only some $1.2 billion still available for approving additional applications. If all the applications currently being processed are approved and the holds lifted, the ESB (59 per cent) account would be short of funds by over $6 billion.

01-54926 (E) 280901

II. Revenue generation

A. Oil production and sale of petroleum and petroleum products

6. Since the beginning of phase X, the oil overseers and the Committee have reviewed and approved a total of 107 contracts (including 46 contracts from phase IX extended into phase X, five of which were later cancelled by the State Oil Marketing Organization of Iraq) involving purchasers from 33 countries.[1] The total quantity of oil approved for export under those contracts corresponds to approximately 305 million barrels with an estimated value of 7.7 billion euros ($7.1 billion, at the current rate of exchange).

7. The rate of export of petroleum from Iraq in the current phase (phase X) has been slightly lower than the normal level. During the reporting period, 63 loadings totalling 109 million barrels with an estimated value of 2,552 million euros ($2,337 million, at the current rate of exchange) have been completed. Of the total volume exported, 36.2 per cent was exported through Ceyhan and 63.8 per cent was exported through Mina al-Bakr.

8. The oil overseers have continued to advise and assist the Committee on pricing mechanisms, contract approval and modifications and other pertinent questions relating to exports and monitoring, under resolution 986 (1995) and all subsequent relevant resolutions. The oil overseers and the independent inspection agents from Saybolt deployed to observe oil loadings and transfers have worked closely to ensure the monitoring of the relevant oil installations as well as liftings. The modus operandi for the inspection of oil exports originating from Iraq has remained unchanged.

[1] Algeria (1); Austria (1); Belarus (1); China (7); Cyprus (4); Denmark (1); Egypt (1); France (2); Italy (1); Jordan (7); Kenya (2); Lebanon (2); Liechtenstein (4); Namibia (2); Nigeria (1); Oman (1); Pakistan (4); Panama (3); Qatar (3); Romania (3); Russian Federation (15); Singapore (1); South Africa (1); Spain (2); Switzerland (5); Syrian Arab Republic (7); Thailand (1); Turkey (4); Ukraine (5); United Arab Emirates (8); United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2); Viet Nam (4); and Yemen (1).

B. United Nations accounts pertaining to the Iraq programme

9. The United Nations accounts pertaining to the Iraq programme are divided into seven separate funds pursuant to paragraph 8 (a) to (g) of Security Council resolution 986 (1995). As at the end of August 2001, 1,162.9 million euros had been deposited into the account for phase X, as authorized under Council resolutions 1284 (1999), 1330 (2000) and 1360 (2001), bringing the total oil sale revenue since the inception of the programme to $37,333.9 million and 9,411 million euros. The allocation of total oil revenue among the various funds and the corresponding expenditures, as at 31 August 2001, are reported in annex I to the present report; the number and value of letters of credit pertaining to oil proceeds and humanitarian supplies are reported in annex II.

10. In paragraph 8 of resolution 1360 (2001), the Security Council requested that I take the necessary steps to transfer the excess funds drawn from the account created pursuant to paragraph 8 (d) of resolution 986 (1995) for the purposes set out in paragraph 8 (a) of that resolution in order to increase the funds available for humanitarian purchases. As will be recalled, a contingency reserve of $200 million has been established, which was set aside at the end of phase VI. In September 2000, an amount of $52 million, constituting the excess funds at the end of phase VII, was redistributed for the purchase of humanitarian supplies. I informed the Council of this in my report of 2 March 2001 (S/2001/186 and Corr.1, para. 26). In July 2001, an amount of $75 million, constituting the excess funds at the end of phase VIII, was also redistributed for the purchase of humanitarian supplies. Owing to the substantial decrease in oil revenues during phase IX, no excess funds were available for redistribution towards the purchase of additional humanitarian supplies during this reporting period; in fact, a shortfall was recorded. A further review will be conducted at the end of the current phase and any excess funds identified at that time will be made available for redistribution accordingly.

11. The fluctuation in the levels of oil revenue underlines the prudence of maintaining the existing percentage for the ESD (2.2 per cent) account, which has been in effect since the inception of the programme. Moreover, the expenditures in this account comprise, in the main, the cost of personnel executing

the oil-for-food programme, which cannot be adjusted easily within the span of one phase. Maintaining the existing ESD (2.2 per cent) allocation is essential to counteract the adverse effect of sudden shortfalls in this account, which have occurred in the past, as well as to provide a measure of operational stability and delivery of services. The mechanism that has evolved has also ensured that the Secretariat reallocates unutilized administrative resources to the purchase of humanitarian supplies.

III. Processing and approval of applications for contracts

A. Processing of applications received under the ESB (59 per cent) account

12. As at 15 September 2001, the Secretariat had received contract applications signed by the Government of Iraq with a total value of $32.8 billion, against a total of $34.58 billion budgeted under the distribution plans for phases I to X. However, the actual funds available for contracting by the Government of Iraq stood at a total of $27.978 billion, which comprised all principal allocations to and interest revenues on the funds in the ESB (59 per cent) account, the reimbursements made and expected from the ESC (13 per cent) account for the bulk procurement of food and medicines, as well as the share of the ESC (13 per cent) account for the cost of oil spare parts. The Committee and the Secretariat had approved or notified 14,687 contract applications with a total value of $26.786 billion. Accordingly, there were some $1.192 billion still available for approving additional applications. A statistical overview of the processing and approval of all applications for contracts submitted under the ESB (59 per cent) account is contained in annex III.

13. The substantial difference between anticipated revenues (planning figures) and the actual proceeds from the sale of oil, as well as the greatly varied rate of submission and/or approval of applications among various sectors of the programme, has resulted in major disparities in the availability of funds to cover other sectors. Consequently, some sectors were almost fully funded up to the distribution plan levels, while a shortage of funds prevented the issuance of approval letters for 381 applications approved in other sectors, totalling $1.232 billion, including agriculture, education, electricity, health and water and sanitation. I should like to express my deep regret that the Government of Iraq has not taken action on the repeated proposals of the Executive Director of the Iraq Programme for revising the distribution plan allocations in the light of the actual availability of funds, in order to ensure the required funding balance among various sectors, as well as the expeditious issuance of the approval letters.

14. Processing of applications has also suffered from major fluctuations in the rate of submission of applications. Intermittent backlogs developed following sudden and large influxes of applications. A sample analysis of the health sector indicated however that the period between the signing of a contract and the submission of its related application to the Secretariat has been reduced from 42 days in phase VIII to 28 days in phase IX and, in the oil sector, from 51 days to 34 days.

15. Although the net value of applications on hold had increased from $3.7 billion in May to $4.05 billion as at 15 September 2001, the relative value of applications on hold declined from 17.8 per cent to 16.77 per cent of the total value of all applications circulated to the Committee. While welcoming the recent technical review by the Committee of the issues relating to the water and sanitation sector, I should like to appeal, once again, for a more expeditious assessment of all sectors, as well as reconsideration of applications placed on hold.

16. The number of applications on which at least one member of the Committee disagreed with the Secretariat experts on whether they contained any items notifiable under resolution 1051 (1996) remained unchanged, at 218, but their value increased by $186 million, and now stands at $648 million, mainly because of a few high-value applications in the electricity sector. It is expected that the recent revision of the lists of items and technologies to which the export-import mechanism approved under resolution 1051 (1996) applies, as well as other measures, will help in reducing such disagreements.

17. The first set of revisions, pertaining to the lists of biological and chemical items (see S/2001/560), came into effect in July 2001. In view of those revisions, the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) reassessed all the applications previously determined to contain one or

more items on those lists, and confirmed that a total of 163 applications, either still on hold or previously approved, contained none of those items. Of the 81 applications previously on hold for containing such items, and circulated anew to the Committee as amendments, only 18 applications, or 22 per cent, were released subsequently, while the reason for the hold was changed in the remaining cases. The second set of changes, pertaining to the list of nuclear items (see S/2001/561), came into effect on 1 September 2001. UNMOVIC reassessed the relevant applications and, by 15 September 2001, had confirmed that there were no such items in 261 such applications, some of which are being circulated again to the Committee.

18. A total of 801 applications, valued at $1,629 million, have been approved and/or released from hold on the specific condition of "end-use/user" observation, under which full or partial deliveries have been made against 413 applications, valued at some $676 million. In order to facilitate tracking and reporting of those applications, the Office of the Iraq Programme has developed an "end-use/user" verification database, which is now fully operational, and arrangements are made to make its contents available to the Committee members.

19. While I welcome the reduction in the number and value of approved applications for which BNP-Paribas had not received requests from the Central Bank of Iraq to issue letters of credit, I urge the Government of Iraq to further reduce their volume, which still remains very high, involving 643 applications worth $968 million.

20. In expressing my regret at the absence of legitimate commercial protection to the Iraqi buyers, I should like to reiterate my appeal to the Committee to accord the highest priority to taking the measures necessary to protect the ESB (59 per cent) account against commercial malpractice or occasional fraudulent practices.

B. ESC (13 per cent) account

21. As at 15 September 2001, some $5.824 billion was allocated to the ESC (13 per cent) account, of which $4.3 billion was allocated to the United Nations for implementing the humanitarian programme in the three northern governorates. The remaining $1.53 billion was allocated for reimbursement to the ESB (59 per cent) account for the supplies of food, medicine and vaccines delivered to the three northern governorates under the bulk procurement arrangements, as well as the funds charged to the ESC (13 per cent) account for the cost of oil spare parts and equipment. A statistical overview of the processing and approval of all applications for contracts submitted under the ESC (13 per cent) account is contained in annex III.

22. I remain concerned, however, that during the reporting period there has not been much improvement in the rate of submission of applications by United Nations agencies and programmes. The matter has been brought to the attention of the executive heads of all the agencies and programmes concerned.

IV. Observation and monitoring activities

A. Inspection and authentication of humanitarian supplies

23. With the exception of the port of Umm Qasr, where the movement and authentication of goods that had arrived were constrained by a number of logistical factors, the process of inspection and authentication of supplies by the United Nations independent inspection agents in the authorized entry points of Iraq have proceeded normally.

24. The value of all goods delivered to Iraq under all phases and sectors has reached a total of $14.84 billion, including oil spare parts and equipment valued at $903 million. Approval letters were issued for additional goods totalling some $10.715 billion, including $1.3 billion for oil spare parts.

B. Monitoring of oil spare parts and equipment

25. The oil spare parts and equipment inspection team carried out 225 visits to various warehouses and facilities in the south and north of Iraq. The Committee approved a total of 372 contract applications on condition of "end-use/user" and follow-up monitoring, of which the goods approved under 127 contract applications have arrived in Iraq and were inspected by the team, as required. The inspection team is also responsible for carrying out special authentication of

services rendered by foreign suppliers. In view of the increase in the arrival rate of oil spare parts and equipment, and the required monitoring activities, the Executive Director of the Iraq Programme requested the Government of Iraq to agree to an incremental increase in the number of inspectors. I regret that the Government of Iraq has not agreed to such an increase, without which the monitoring ability of the inspection team will be severely constrained.

C. United Nations observation mechanism

26. As part of the reorganization and enhancement of the observation mechanism, the Geographical Observation Unit and the Multidisciplinary Observation Unit of the United Nations Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator in Iraq are in the process of being merged into a single unit.

27. While efficiency, equity and adequacy continue to receive due attention, the observation mechanism currently focuses on responding to end-use/user verification requirements and providing clarifications for contracts on hold. Observation also focused on priority areas of comprehensive tracking, assessments and special reports to highlight both the programme impact on the population and the impact of holds on programme implementation.

28. A new initiative is being undertaken to work with government technical personnel to review cases of contracts on hold and provide the required clarifications, so as to facilitate reconsideration of those contracts by the Committee. Comprehensive assessment reports on the impact of holds in the various humanitarian sectors, including water and sanitation, electricity, health, education and crucial areas of the transport and food handling sectors have been prepared by the sectoral working groups, in cooperation with government counterparts. The reports have been made available to the Committee and it is hoped that they have facilitated the approval of related contracts.

29. Although cooperation with the authorities with regard to United Nations observation activities could be considered to be generally satisfactory, regrettably there are considerable difficulties in carrying out field observations in some specific sectors such as education, electricity and nutrition, because of conditions set by the authorities with regard to the timing, frequency and duration of such observations. The Humanitarian Coordinator and the heads of the United Nations agencies and programmes held joint meetings with the authorities concerned to explain the observation system and mobilize support for it. I should like to request the Government of Iraq to facilitate United Nations observation activities pursuant to the relevant provisions, particularly paragraph 44, of the memorandum of understanding concluded on 20 May 1996 between the United Nations Secretariat and the Government of Iraq.

30. Details on the distribution of observations by sector and type as conducted by the sectoral working groups during the reporting period are contained in annex IV.

V. Programme implementation

A. Sectoral focus

Food

31. The Government of Iraq rejected three consignments of wheat on the grounds that they were of substandard quality. Consequently, the in-country stocks of wheat provided under the programme declined sharply. From its own stock the Government loaned to the programme 25 per cent of the wheat requirements for May, 75 per cent of those for June and 100 per cent of those for July. This might also have been necessary in part to rotate national stocks. As part of its combined management of programme and non-programme stocks, the Government also supplemented the distribution of other commodities that are later reimbursed from the programme stocks.

32. The monthly food basket, distributed throughout the country during the reporting period, provided an average of 2,229 kilocalories and 50.34 grams of protein per person per day, which corresponds to 90 per cent and 84 per cent, respectively, of the 2,472 kcal and 60.2 grams of protein per person per day requirements established under the distribution plans for phases VIII to X. The shortfalls resulted mainly from lower provision of pulses, vegetable oil and dairy products. In particular, the ration scale for pulses was 57 per cent, vegetable oil 83 per cent and dairy products 44 per cent of programme entitlements. On reviewing the stocks, it was noted that only 39 per cent of pulses and

47 per cent of dried whole milk, contracted and approved under phases VI to IX, had been delivered.

33. In the three northern governorates, the World Food Programme is making final preparations for the ration card verification exercise. This exercise aims to improve existing data reliability in order to safeguard the equitable distribution of food rations to each household.

Transport and food handling

34. Although the equipment delivered during the past four months at the port of Umm Qasr, worth $2.2 million, including forklifts, straddle carriers, gooseneck trailers, generators and spare parts for dredgers and tugboats, will significantly improve handling capacity at the port, there is still a great need for new dredgers, service boats and tugboats, which are essential for the maintenance of port access channels and other services at the port, which remain on hold.

35. The Iraqi Republic Railways, which received items worth $14.2 million, corresponding to 30 per cent of its overall receipts under the programme, has given priority to breakdown maintenance, rehabilitation of locomotives and the renewal of old track on the Basrah-Baghdad-Mosul route. The progress in railway reconstruction, however, is slow, owing to the lack of steel strands for the production of concrete sleepers. The lack of functional signalling and telecommunication equipment, contracts which remain on hold, constitutes another major setback.

36. The increase in the volume of humanitarian cargo arriving in the country, the operational constraints of the railway system and the poor condition of the private sector truck fleets all continue to hamper the efficiency of land transport. The new trucks from recently approved contracts will help to mitigate some of the current inadequacies. Holds valued at $392 million, for trucks, spare parts, and other essential supplies, together with the items for tyre factories currently functioning at 20 to 25 per cent of their design capacity, are having a serious negative impact on the country's road transport haulage.

37. In the laboratories of mills and silos, the lack of essential equipment and reagents to carry out basic food quality tests is increasing the risk of distributing contaminated and poor quality food. Most of the existing cold stores are not functional, and the number of available refrigerated trucks is insufficient. Under the programme, cold and deep freeze stores, totalling 4,000 square metres, have already been approved. There is an urgent need to release associated contracts worth $5.4 million.

Health

38. The 200 ambulances previously placed on hold have been released. In June 2001, all the applications for vaccines were released. If the current orders of oral polio vaccine (OPV) and tuberculosis (BCG), diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus (DPT) and measles vaccines arrive on schedule, they will be sufficient to cover the needs in the country until the end of December 2002. Some essential drugs and medicines for chronic diseases are still in short supply because of erratic arrivals.

39. Observation visits were made to the Samarra Drug Industries (SDI) facilities at Samarra, Salah al-Din and Ninewa. The teams observed that most of the machines and equipment in the factories were old and inefficient. Currently, the average production capacity of SDI plants is 35 per cent of their design capacity. SDI production is satisfying, in varying degrees, the needs of the south and centre of Iraq in certain categories of drugs. The problem of supplying these products to the north remains, however, as the Ministry of Health is insisting on direct cash reimbursement, rather than the escrow account transfer currently applicable under the bulk purchase arrangement, as most of the inputs, according to Ministry officials, come from non-programme resources. This is a matter of concern because the reduced level of bulk procurement due to production of drugs at SDI, by not providing the appropriate share of the production to the three northern governorates, is leading to shortages of such drugs in the north. The Secretariat is currently reviewing the matter and will submit proposals thereon to the Committee.

40. Programme inputs have improved some public health parameters in the country. Figures on the trends of communicable diseases released by the Ministry of Health for 1997-2000 showed that the incidence of most communicable diseases has decreased, and that many others have remained stable. However, amoebic dysentery, hydatidosis, toxoplasmosis, typhoid, tuberculosis and visceral leishmaniasis have shown slight increases. The high incidence of water-borne diseases can be largely attributed to the poor state of water and sanitation infrastructures in the country.

41. Serious shortages persist in laboratory diagnostic capacity. This is mainly due to holds placed on related applications. If supplies of McConkey broth do not arrive within a month, most laboratories will not be able to carry out bacteriological analysis. Given the seriousness of the situation, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator are working together to resolve this problem. I appeal to the Committee to review expeditiously its position on this most urgent matter.

42. Vaccine deliveries in the last week of July to the three northern governorates provided stocks of BCG and OPV for three months, measles and tetanus for four months, and DPT for 22 days, resulting in slight improvements in immunization coverage in July, as compared to June. Nine outreach teams in Erbil governorate conducted a small-scale measles, mumps and rubella campaign in which 4,900 children aged 15 to 59 months were immunized. In order to raise the low levels of immunization coverage for measles, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WHO are preparing a vaccination campaign for November 2001.

Nutrition

43. The relatively low funding level, delayed contracting and arrival of supplies, and frequent cancellation of contracts, often due to the inability of the suppliers to meet their contractual obligations, are the main factors limiting the effectiveness of the targeted nutrition programme. Of the $41.5 million allocated for the targeted nutrition programme up to phase IX, contracts valued at $27.9 million had been submitted and approved. Of these, only 51 per cent (valued at $14.4 million) have arrived in the country, while the remaining contracts under phases IV, V, VI and VIII have been cancelled owing to either the inability of the suppliers to deliver (high-protein biscuits and therapeutic milk contracts under phase V) or replace the contaminated supplies (therapeutic milk contracts under IV and VI). No applications have been submitted to the Secretariat under phases VII and IX. Since phase IV, efforts by the United Nations to redress the situation have yielded no results. Observation findings, from the acceptability study carried out by the Nutrition Sectoral Working Group, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, confirmed that high-protein biscuits have an acceptability rate of nearly 100 per cent. Following this indication, which showed that the biscuits would indeed be consumed, the decision was taken by the Government to increase the allocation for high-protein biscuits, under phase X, to $10 million, which is still inadequate.

44. During the reporting period, the number of operative Community Child Care Units was 2,402. The Government's target of 3,000 units was not met in December 2000 and has been reset for December 2001. Some of the established units have been forced to close for lack of supplies. Constraints on transportation and storage still exist. The release of the application for 189 trucks that have been on hold since October 2000 will partially address the problem.

45. A proposal on a comprehensive nutrition programme, "Improving child nutrition in Iraq", was presented to the Government in June 2001. It recommended the promotion, support and protection of exclusive breastfeeding, control of micronutrient deficiencies and distribution of supplementary foods to children under 5 years of age. In July, the Government of Iraq informed the United Nations that the proposal was still under review.

46. In the three northern governorates, WFP monitoring of the school-feeding project revealed that the distribution of high-protein biscuits positively affected children's behaviour in class and their learning capacity in 86 per cent of targeted schools.

Water and sanitation

47. Access to clean water is still far less than the demand, and sewage-flooded streets, caused by sewer blockages, have become a common phenomenon in many urban areas throughout the centre and south of Iraq. The commissioning of 273 cesspit emptiers and jetting units has helped to prevent the further deterioration of the sewerage network. According to United Nations observations carried out at 6 of the 13 sewage treatment plants in the central and southern governorates, programme inputs have not made any significant impact on improving the quality of the sewage effluent discharged from those facilities. The release from hold of contracts for mechanical and electrical equipment for these facilities is therefore urgently required.

48. Although the overall efficiency of water treatment plants and compact units has increased because of the arrival and installation of items procured

under the programme, the lack of continuous power supply lessened this benefit, reducing actual performance efficiency of water treatment plants by 10 per cent, while the performance efficiency of compact units serving rural populations was reduced by approximately 24 per cent. Some compact units were shut down for lack of raw water, mainly at irrigation canals. Water was provided to consumers by 296 water tankers supplied under the programme. Assessments in Kerbala, Salah al-Din, Anbar, Tameem and Diyala indicated that the tankers were able to satisfy only 25 to 50 per cent of requirements, underlining the urgent need to release from hold contracts for 450 water tankers. The installation of three recently delivered compact units in Baghdad City has helped to supply 200,000 consumers with previously denied potable water.

49. The installation of 70 per cent of the 566 chlorinator units received at water treatment facilities has contributed marginally to the improvement of potable water quality. The lack of laboratory equipment and chemicals, however, is a major limitation to water-quality monitoring. Furthermore, only about one third of the 20,000 chlorine gas cylinders were distributed during this period, owing to the lack of transportation and handling equipment, including protective clothing, currently on hold. The recent distribution of backhoe excavators and crawler excavators facilitated the installation of 280 km of new pipelines, benefiting over 500,000 people. Over 70 per cent of the pipes received to date, however, still remain unutilized at warehouses, because of insufficient handling, transportation and construction equipment for their delivery and installation, and the lack of a cash component.

50. For the three northern governorates, it is estimated that current production capacity of treated water could meet the demands of over 90 per cent of the population, but that, owing to illegal connections and/or leakage in existing networks, contamination is still a widespread problem. Increased efforts are being made to improve the situation. In an effort to reduce illegal connections and water leakage, and to extend the water network to unserved urban areas, the water distribution network was extended to benefit around 916,000 people.

51. Results from water quality tests met chemical standards, although tested samples showed that the water from Erbil and Dahuk urban centres was still unfit for consumption and that water from Sulaymaniyah City was not contaminated and fully met WHO standards. In semi-urban and rural areas of all the three northern governorates, the bacteriological contamination exceeded the allowable limits set by WHO.

Agriculture

52. The supply of irrigation inputs through the programme has steadily improved the efficiency of the governmental irrigation infrastructure. At present, more than 15,000 hectares of arable land have been reclaimed and rehabilitated. Not all were cropped, however, owing to a shortage of irrigation water as a consequence of the prevailing low water levels in the rivers. The harvest of winter crops (wheat and barley), completed in June, was successful owing to good rainfall, which complemented the positive effects of the programme inputs. The summer crops, however, are suffering from a shortage of irrigation water. Planting of sunflower, rice, maize and cotton was restricted to less than 20 per cent in comparison to last summer, with rice being grown just to save the seeds for next year's planting season.

53. The non-release of contracts for over 850 tons of various pesticides for fruit and vegetable production resulted recently in a grave outbreak of whitefly, affecting over 10,000 hectares of citrus orchards in the four governorates of Diyala, Wassit, Kerbala and Baghdad. The infestation is rapidly spreading to neighbouring governorates. Crucial inputs for animal and poultry vaccines, worth $3.753 million, are also on hold. The total lack of urgently needed vaccines against enterotoxaemia, which is endemic in the country, presents a serious threat to the population of small ruminants. Furthermore, laboratory equipment, diagnostic kits, laboratory and cold chain supplies, which are essential to overcome deficiencies of veterinary cold chain and diagnostic facilities, are still on hold.

54. The assessment of on-farm irrigation systems carried out in the governorates of Ninewa, Babylon, Tameem and Salah al-Din revealed that irrigation systems had a positive impact on agricultural production; irrigated and cultivated areas had increased by up to 45 and 47 per cent, respectively, since the acquisition of the equipment.

55. In the three northern governorates, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has continued with the rehabilitation of the agro-industries.

The Harir fruit-processing plant was commissioned on 26 June 2001 and, as at 4 August 2001, had produced 590,000 cans of tomato paste. Feasibility studies for the Arbat oil-processing plant, the Derbandikhan dairy factory, the Erbil slaughterhouse, and the slaughterhouses in Erbil and Sulaymaniyah have been finalized. Market survey reports have been produced for oil, fruit and dairy products.

56. In the animal health subsector, reports of four cases of suspected tick-transmitted crimean-congo haemorrhagic fever, causing one human death, prompted emergency spraying of animal corrals, livestock markets and slaughterhouses. Treatment of cattle, sheep and goats was carried out, using an injectable preparation. Active disease surveillance, with particular emphasis on foot-and-mouth disease, continued during the period.

Electricity

57. The deficit in electricity generation is severely affecting consumers — there are power cuts of 2 to 4 hours per day in Baghdad City, 12 hours per day in Baghdad governorate and up to 18 hours per day in most of the other 14 governorates in the centre and south. Although the situation is similar to the same period last year, it is anticipated that it will improve because of the expected commissioning of new gas units.

58. The current available generating capacity in the central and southern governorates of Iraq is estimated at 3,600 megawatts (MW). The regional drought during the past three years has reduced hydropower plant generation from an installed capacity of 1,844 MW to the current capacity of 200 MW. The deficit in power-generating capacity in the country has been steadily increasing over the past four years. The estimated deficit in power for the year 2001 is 2,800 MW. It is expected that the power deficit in 2002 and 2003 could be reduced to 2,000 MW and 1,500 MW, respectively, as the new power-generating units, including the recently released second phase of Al-Quds power-generating station (2 x 125 MW gas units), are installed and connected to the grid. In view of this situation, it is essential that the contracts pertaining to new gas units at Najaf, Dibis and Rumalia, and complementary contracts for large thermal units at Salah al-Din, Al-Shemal and Yousifiya thermal power plants, as well as the rehabilitation contract for the Dura thermal power plant, be approved as soon as possible. In addition, chemicals and equipment for the power plants, communication system, and raw material for local production of cables, conductors and distribution transformers are required as a high priority.

59. Prior to the drought which began at the end of 1998, the two hydropower plants at the Dokan and Derbandikhan dams in the three northern governorates produced some 350 MW, an output insufficient to cover humanitarian and essential civilian needs. The two dams now only produce some 70 to 80 MW. Under the distribution plans for phases VI and VII, provision was made for emergency expansion of the generation capacity to compensate for the shortfall, first through the construction of three 29 MW power plants and, secondly, for the doubling of this capacity.

60. At present, and despite the rains this past winter, the low water levels in the reservoirs at the Dokan and Derbandikhan power plants continue, the Dokan water levels being slightly lower than at this time last year. However, with an increase in the amount of water being released for irrigation purposes, generation from Dokan and Derbandikhan grew over the reporting period. Approximately 20 MW was distributed to Erbil and the rest to Sulaymaniyah, compared to the amounts for the last reporting period, 10 MW and 30 MW, respectively. In Dahuk, which is connected to the national grid, power supply averaged 45 MW, compared with the average of 10 MW over the previous period.

61. As indicated in my previous report (S/2001/505, para. 95), the "common understandings" on national reconnection reached in April 2001 between the local authorities in the three northern governorates were brought to the attention of the Government of Iraq. An early response by the Government of Iraq is necessary as a next step in achieving consensus on the strategy for meeting the long-term electricity needs of the three northern governorates.

62. As part of the emergency generation programme, the last of the three 29 MW diesel plants was commissioned in Sulaymaniyah during the reporting period. Regrettably, because the Government of Iraq did not issue visas for essential technical experts, the three 29 MW diesel plants have had to be run on a reduced mode of 8 to 16 hours per day, instead of the planned 24 hours. The need for continuous operation of these diesel plants is critical, as it is the only secure

means of supplying electricity to local hospitals and major irrigation and water pumping stations.

63. With the visa situation unresolved and in apparent deadlock, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is currently preparing contingency plans for scaling down its operation. This will affect ongoing rehabilitation and construction works, as well as the operation and maintenance of installed generation facilities. Financial claims from contractors resulting from the inability of UNDP to meet its contractual obligations are also expected. Once downsizing is effected, reactivating would involve a lead time of several months.

Education

64. Of the cumulative $2.5 million worth of rehabilitation materials delivered in the country, 85 per cent had been distributed to end-use facilities. However, field observations showed that the materials distributed had not stemmed the deterioration in the sector. A random sample of 250 primary schools in the central and southern governorates showed that 81 per cent of them were in poor or critical condition.

65. The main printing facility of the Ministry of Education still produced less than 10 per cent of textbook requirements. Although about 85 per cent of the spare parts ordered had arrived, the other 15 per cent are also essential and rehabilitation can commence only upon their full delivery and upon the provision of a cash component, which would permit necessary installations to be made and expertise to be obtained. In addition, the Ministry of Education embarked on the process of establishing two new chalk factories, but the project will actually begin only after the arrival of the remaining 50 per cent of the materials ordered under phase V.

66. Since the inception of the programme, 48 per cent of school desks, of the target of 2 million, have been distributed. Although desk production facilities have a combined annual production capacity of 375,000, only 210,000 school desks have been manufactured in the country over the past four years. The facilities have been unable to achieve their production potential because of the erratic pattern of arrival of essential inputs, shortages of electricity supply and the receipt of materials of poor quality or incorrect specifications.

67. In the higher education subsector, recent observation visits reveal that, although some categories of programme inputs such as physical education outfits and transportation vehicles have been received, core items, including computers and laboratory equipment, which would have a direct impact on learning are still on hold. These items are necessary for enhancing practical training and scientific research at all universities and specialized colleges. There is an urgent need for the Committee to review further the applications for the items concerned, which are on the "1051 list". Furthermore, holds on printing equipment are seriously affecting the provision of educational reading materials.

68. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is now completing the first phase of its school-mapping project for the three northern governorates. This initiative was introduced to institutionalize and rationalize educational data management, in order to assist educational decision makers in better targeting the distribution of educational resources, including the location of future schools. During the period under review, questionnaires were developed, fielded and collected. Data were encoded and analysis of the data has started. Under this project 322 schools were surveyed in Sulaymaniyah, 204 in Erbil and 132 in Dahuk.

Telecommunications

69. In recent months, some core telecommunications equipment, consisting of microwave, international and national switching systems and mobile network systems, have been released from hold. The installation of this equipment will lead to improvement in the network and in services after about eight months, when the approved equipment arrives in the country and is commissioned. This will bring long-awaited relief to the emergency services and the humanitarian programme. However, a truly tangible impact in this sector can be expected only after the release from hold of fibre-optic cables and systems and data communication networks, which have been on hold for a long time.

70. The activities of the International Telecommunication Union in the three northern governorates included site surveys to determine the coverage areas for the mobile networks in Sulaymaniyah and Dahuk and a visit to Zakho for studying the feasibility of integrating this region into a backbone transmission network. Discussions have been held with the local authorities regarding the preparation

of access roads leading to the Bawa-jee and Safeen sites, as they have been cleared of mines by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). In order to prepare the sites of Dinara, Atrush, Bablo, Nizar and Dahuk, a technical survey was completed. Contract negotiations for the installation of switching centres in Erbil, Sulaymaniyah and Dahuk and microwave links connecting them are under way.

Housing

71. Housing conditions for the majority of the population in Iraq are still poor, characterized by dilapidated structures and overcrowding, and further aggravated by low quality of potable water and inadequate disposal of sewage and garbage.

72. The number of building permits issued between 1 May and 31 August 2001 was 27,418, an increase of more than 60 per cent over the number of building permits issued during the preceding four months. The distribution of materials to end-users, upon their request, was efficient. On average, it took only one week for applicants to receive their quota of building materials. In general, the materials at the warehouses were adequate, in both quality and quantity, but occasional shortages of some materials occurred.

73. Despite the subsidies, some end-users still cannot afford the prices of the materials. Indeed, many of them postpone or discontinue the construction of their houses, with the intention of resuming the construction at a later stage, when their financial situation improves. Given the fact that the cost of programme materials represents only a portion of housing costs, other components are important as well. The availability of local construction materials, such as cement and bricks, is crucial to the completion of the construction cycle.

74. Although contracts on hold in the housing sector represent only 6.36 per cent of the cumulative value of submitted contracts, they have a serious negative impact on the sector, as they include spare parts, equipment and machinery that are essential for the rehabilitation of local building material production.

75. With the inclusion of a special allocation component in the distribution plan under phase IX, the Government has embarked on the construction of 12 social housing complexes, with a total of 6,000 units, in nine governorates, namely, Baghdad, Missan, Thi-Qar, Muthanna, Basrah, Qadissiya, Tameem, Ninewa and Salah al-Din.

Settlement rehabilitation

76. In the three northern governorates, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) is reorienting its programme from an individual project approach to an integrated service package approach. Gradually, housing construction projects will be offered in conjunction with basic services, like water supply, waste disposal services, access roads and other infrastructure, schools and health facilities. It is expected that the new approach will ultimately lead to an area-based plan for a network of interrelated projects. The previously adopted target of 30,000 housing units in two years still holds, but its achievement is significantly dependent on factors outside the influence of the management.

77. In August, UNOPS completed the needs assessment of the internally displaced persons living in temporary shelters in Erbil. Assessments for those in the Dahuk and Sulaymaniyah governorates are close to completion. A major finding so far is the notable lack or dilapidated state of the water and sanitation facilities in many of the surveyed locations. Furthermore, a number of temporary shelters require large-scale construction works beyond minor building repairs. Closer inter-agency coordination is therefore expected with UNICEF, as the lead agency in water and sanitation, as well as Habitat, as the main construction arm of the United Nations, under the programme in the three northern governorates.

78. With regard to the distribution of emergency relief items to internally displaced persons, UNOPS and the Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator have sought to streamline and standardize the verification process to ensure that the authentication of beneficiary lists is completed in a prompt and well-targeted manner. In the short term, support projects for internally displaced persons would focus on those in tents and public buildings. A plan is under way to improve the harsh conditions prevailing in Benislawa camp in Erbil. Work is also under way to set up a tented camp in Chamchamal.

Mine action

79. Recently, UNOPS revised its mine-clearing priorities to focus on a village-centred model rather than independent minefields. In addition, United Nations agencies and local authorities are involved in determining and classifying the various impacts of

minefields on village activities. This radical change in the process is expected to indicate more clearly where needs are the greatest within northern Iraq. Demining resources can then be employed to address specific requirements, including assistance to victims and mine awareness needs.

80. During the past four months, the mine action programme cleared 18 minefields and returned the land to the communities, giving them wider access to grazing and cultivated land, road transport, housing and water.

81. The demining operations have suffered severely from the inordinate delays in and or refusal to grant visas to experts required for the implementation of the programme as well as delays in customs clearance of essential equipment.

B. Special allocation pursuant to paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution 1360 (2001)

82. In paragraph 11 of resolution 1360 (2001), the Security Council called upon the Government of Iraq to take the remaining steps necessary to implement paragraph 27 of resolution 1284 (1999). A considerable number of applications for contracts to improve the warehousing and handling of humanitarian supplies, including trucks, forklifts, cold-chain vehicles and related equipment, have been submitted to the Office of the Iraq Programme. The supplies concerned, however, would not address fully all constraints reported by the United Nations observers, such as lack of appropriate space in many storage facilities. With regard to health supplies, the continuing holds placed on contracts for computer equipment needed for an automated countrywide stock management system, have a serious impact on the effective implementation of the programme.

83. The needs of vulnerable groups are also of concern since the Government has made little or no provision within the distribution plans for the specific needs of female-headed households, children in difficult circumstances and the supplementary feeding programmes organized through the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. For the first time, however, in the distribution plan for phase IX, the Government allocated nearly $388 million, while in the phase X distribution plan it allotted in excess of $378 million, under the "special allocation" from funds made available under Council resolutions 1330 (2000) and 1360 (2001). It is recommended that the Government of Iraq address this concern.

84. A total of $194 million was allocated to the Ministry of Housing and Construction to build housing complexes in the governorates "where overcrowding prevails with a high concentration of low-income families". The special allocation also put aside funds for a range of water and sanitation facilities, hospitals, schools, youth sports and recreational facilities. Under phase X, the Government allocated $21 million to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs for the rehabilitation of social institutions and the provision of vocational training aids. This was a welcome development because, as the distribution plan noted, it is the "nodal Ministry tasked with the provision of assistance programmes to the most needy segments of the population outside the resolution 986 (1995) arrangements".

85. With regard to the prioritization of goods to be procured, as stipulated in paragraph 27 of resolution 1284 (1999), the Government of Iraq has continued to advise the Office of the Iraq Programme on specific applications and amendments to the distribution plan. With regard to the provision calling upon the Government of Iraq to ensure that there is no time lapse before the involuntarily displaced receive food rations after relocation, preliminary findings indicate that there is no waiting period, and that the ration basket is made available as soon as the individual completes registration.

86. With regard to mine clearance, the number of accidents relating to ordnance and mines in the 15 central and southern governorates of Iraq continues to be a matter of concern. The Government has included mine/ordnance clearance activities within the distribution plan since phase IX, and is finalizing one contract for demining. The Government also provides for all citizens injured in mine-related accidents to benefit from medical and prosthetic supplies made available to Ibn al-Kuff hospital and other health facilities.

87. In the three northern governorates, the focus of the UNICEF social programmes continued to be physical rehabilitation of key institutions that serve vulnerable children, training of caregivers and support in strengthening the management and planning capacity

of the local institutions. During the reporting period, about 5,650 children benefited from rehabilitation services, including the provision and repair of orthoses, prostheses, mobility aids, shoes and physiotherapy. Assistance programmes have also been provided to street and working children at vocational and training centres in Erbil.

C. Cross-sectoral considerations

Planning and information collection

88. During the last four months, the Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator (north), in close collaboration with United Nations agencies and programmes, has continued working, as outlined in paragraph 118 of my last report (S/2001/505), on the development of a common framework for the judicious use of resources provided under ESC (13 per cent) account. The Joint Humanitarian Information Centre has developed a mechanism to permit a more cost-effective exchange of geographical information for purposes of multi-sectoral coordination. The development of the project implementation tracking base has been completed on schedule, and input of data is about to begin. A system for regularly collecting, collating and comparing valid and reliable data on needs and interventions, focused at district level, is also well under way. The district review process, combined with the findings and recommendations of independent technical evaluations carried out by United Nations agencies and programmes, will be of assistance to the inter-agency programme as a whole.

Drought contingency

89. Rainfall data for the period from October 2000 to April 2001 show a higher precipitation in the three northern governorates than in the corresponding period last year, although the reported overall rainfall during this period is about 15 per cent less than average. Inflows and water levels at Dokan and Derbandikhan dams have not improved substantially. In many areas of the region, large springs have already ceased to discharge as a result of insufficient snow cover in the winter season. Consequently, water availability in the summer months for irrigated agriculture was less than in past years, although the winter rains were of sufficient quantity to ensure a good harvest of cereal crops (wheat and barley) on rain-fed fields in many parts of the region.

90. With the expansion of both the population and economic activities, water scarcity in the three northern governorates is worsening, and it is being further exacerbated by drought. Improved inter-agency coordination mechanisms and effective implementation are therefore essential. As a first step, an integrated water management system involving the principal United Nations agencies and programmes has been established to enhance coordination and sustainability.

91. The three priority activities for this season were water resources management and supply, public health and education and public awareness and training. Comprehensive assessment studies have been carried out in the drought-affected areas to identify those villages most stricken by the drought and the interventions required.

Cash component

92. The absence of a cash component in the 15 central and southern governorates of Iraq has impeded the efforts of the humanitarian programme at many levels and has prevented the installation and effective utilization of plant machinery, equipment and supplies.

93. As an example, in the health sector alone, the utilization of power generators, chiller units, haemodialysis machines, electrocardiograph units, end-tidal CO_2 analysers, anaesthesia machines and intensive care ventilators has been either delayed or not completed because of inadequate cash to install and maintain the equipment. None of the power generators has yet been installed for lack of electric cables that needed to be purchased. Many operating theatres, intensive care units and emergency rooms in the hospitals need urgent renovation to allow the installation of some new sensitive equipment, such as haemodialysis machines and MRI units.

94. It is regrettable that the implementation of the provisions of paragraph 24 of resolution 1284 (1999), which would have allowed funds deposited in the escrow account established by resolution 986 (1995) to be used for the purchase of locally produced goods and to meet the local cost for essential civilian needs funded under the programme, remains pending. I therefore reiterate my appeal to the Government of Iraq to grant the necessary visas for the United Nations experts to visit Iraq with a view to expediting the arrangements essential for local procurement and the cash component. I should also like to appeal to the

Security Council to approve expeditiously the proposed arrangements for the utilization of up to 600 million euros from the deposited funds in the escrow account established by resolution 986 (1995) for the oil sector, which I submitted to the Council on 6 June 2001 (see S/2001/566), pursuant to paragraph 15 of resolution 1330 (2000). I should like to express the hope that, once the proposed arrangements are approved for the oil sector, similar modalities could be extended to support activities in other sectors.

Delays in issuance of visas and clearance of imports

95. In my previous report to the Security Council (S/2001/505, para. 121), I referred to the considerable number of delays and refusals in the issuance of visas to United Nations international personnel, consultants and contractors, contrary to the relevant provisions of the memorandum of understanding (S/1996/356). The situation remains unchanged, in large part because of the Government's position regarding the high cost of expatriate personnel carrying out tasks which, in their opinion, could be performed by their own national experts.

96. Since the start of the current phase, 202 visas have been requested and 181 granted. As at 23 September 2001, however, despite the cancellation of 106 requests for visas by UNOPS and 82 by UNDP, the total number of pending visas stood at 231, including 166 visas for UNDP and 32 for UNOPS, which were requested before the start of the present phase. On 23 September, the Government informed the Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator that a total of 88 visas would be granted to UNDP.

97. The long delays in issuing entry visas in connection with the electricity and demining sectors is having a very serious impact on the implementation of the programme in the governorates of Erbil, Dahuk and Sulaymaniyah. Completed installations could not be commissioned until visas were granted for experts needed to oversee the commissioning. The delays in commissioning the projects could also have legal and liability implications for UNDP and the turnkey contractors.

98. The UNOPS mine action programme strategic plan and future operations have been seriously hampered by the delays in issuing visas and clearing technical and communications equipment. These delays have led to the cancellation of demining contracts in support of the UNDP electricity network rehabilitation programme, the importation of the mechanical ground preparation equipment and the establishment of local non-profit mine action organizations. The cancellation of these three contracts has seriously affected the anticipated increases in clearance rates.

99. Owing to new Government regulations, difficulties have been experienced during the reporting period when importing supplies over the border with Turkey for the three northern governorates in support of the programme. Efforts to streamline the procedures in order to shorten the administrative lead times are continuing. It should be noted that these delays resulted in demurrage charges of some $3 million, not taking into account the considerable costs to the United Nations agencies and programmes concerned.

United Nations personnel in Iraq

100. In a note verbale dated 2 September, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iraq informed the Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator of the Government's decision to declare personae non gratae five international staff members of the Office, and requested that they depart from Iraq within 72 hours. According to that note, the Government's decision to expel the staff members concerned was "due to their performing of activities that infringe the national security of the Republic of Iraq, which are inconsistent with their assigned responsibilities". The staff members concerned were the Assistant Humanitarian Coordinator for Observation, the Legal Adviser, the Senior Reports Officer, a reports officer and a data analyst. Only three of those staff members were in Iraq at that time.

101. In a letter dated 3 September 2001 addressed to the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations, the Executive Director of the Iraq Programme stated that United Nations officials enjoy, under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, immunity for their official acts and that, in order to respond to allegations made by a Government that United Nations officials have acted improperly, it is necessary for the Secretary-General to receive all the details and evidence in support of the charges made against a staff member. In the light of his examination of the evidence presented by the Government, the Secretary-General would then decide on his response. The Convention does not provide for

the declaration of a United Nations staff member as persona non grata, unlike the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, which is an institution of bilateral diplomacy based on reciprocity.

102. Despite several requests, the Government of Iraq did not provide any evidence supporting the charges levelled against the staff members concerned. Purely out of concern for their personal safety and security, the staff members concerned were requested to leave the country as soon as possible, without prejudice either to the relevant provisions of the Convention or to their performance.

VI. Conclusions and recommendations

103. By resolution 986 (1995), Iraq was initially authorized to export oil up to a sum not exceeding $2 billion during a phase of 180 days, which, after the deductions pursuant to relevant resolutions, provided $1.32 billion to programme implementation. The funding levels of the programme were increased by resolutions 1053 (1998) and 1284 (1999), the latter lifting any ceiling on the revenues received from oil exports, which provided to the programme close to $6.5 billion during phase VIII. Regrettably, the $5.556 billion required for the implementation of the approved distribution plan for phase IX could not be made available, owing to the substantial drop in the oil exports from Iraq under the programme.

104. With the increased funding level and the growing magnitude and scope of the programme, which now involves not only, as initially intended, the provision of food, health and medical supplies, but also the rehabilitation of infrastructure, including the oil sector, considerable difficulties are being faced in the effective implementation of the programme within the context of a rigorous sanctions regime imposed by the Security Council. The difficulties have been compounded by the continuing impasse within the Committee on a number of crucial matters, as well as the excessive number of holds placed on applications, the total value of which was $4.05 billion as at 15 September 2001.

105. I should like to reiterate that, with the improved funding level for the programme, the Government of Iraq is indeed in a position to address the nutritional and health concerns of the Iraqi people, particularly the nutritional status of the children. The responsibility for the sectoral allocations in the distribution plans remains with the Government of Iraq, which is also responsible for the selection of its suppliers and contracting under the ESB (59 per cent) account. The Secretariat is involved only after applications are submitted to the Office of the Iraq Programme by the suppliers through their respective permanent and/or observer missions to the United Nations.

106. The implementation of the programme in the three northern governorates, which is carried out by the United Nations on behalf of the Government of Iraq, has been facing considerable difficulties. In addition to the distribution of food and medicine, the programme covers the rehabilitation and reconstruction of infrastructure in a whole array of sectors of increasing size, scope and complexity. The United Nations is involved in implementing projects that are similar to projects covered under regular development programmes. However, in the case of the three northern governorates, the local authorities have informed the United Nations that they have difficulties in paying the salaries of civil servants, teachers and other local officials, and in covering the costs of maintenance and operations of capital assets provided under the programme. I have requested the Executive Director, in full consultation with the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator in Iraq and the agencies and programmes concerned, to review the situation and submit a report thereon as soon as possible.

107. The effective implementation of the programme in the three northern governorates, particularly in the electricity and demining sector, has also been adversely affected by the inordinate delays in the granting of visas to United Nations personnel, as well as the difficulties encountered in the importation of essential equipment and supplies. I call on the Government of Iraq to take all necessary measures in full compliance with the relevant provisions of the memorandum of understanding.

108. Despite all the difficulties encountered and the criticisms levelled by various quarters against the implementation of the programme, it has made a considerable difference in the lives of the average Iraqi citizen. I believe, however, that a constructive and concerted action by all parties concerned would improve substantially the effectiveness of the programme in alleviating the humanitarian situation in Iraq.

Annex I

Allocation of total oil revenue among the various funds and corresponding expenditures, as at 31 August 2001

1. As at 31 August 2001, 1,162.9 million euros had been deposited into the account for phase X, as authorized under Security Council resolution 1360 (2001), bringing the total oil sale revenue since the inception of the programme to $37,333.9 million and 9,411 million euros.

2. The allocation of total oil proceeds received since the inception of the programme to date and the corresponding expenditures as at 31 August 2001 are as follows:

(a) The sums of $19,563.4 million and 5,349 million euros have been allocated for the purchase of humanitarian supplies by the Government of Iraq, as specified in paragraph 8 (a) of resolution 986 (1995). In addition, $1,124.4 million and 37.1 million euros of interest earned in these accounts were available for the purchase of humanitarian supplies in the central and southern governorates of Iraq. Letters of credit issued by the Banque nationale de Paris, on behalf of the United Nations, amounted to approximately $19,737.5 million and 3,194.7 million euros for humanitarian supplies and oil industry spare parts for Iraq; payments amounted to $13,697.2 million and 179.2 million euros under phases I to X;

(b) The sum of $5,767.8 million has been allocated for the purchase of humanitarian goods to be distributed in the three northern governorates by the United Nations Inter-Agency Humanitarian Programme, as specified in paragraph 8 (b) of Security Council resolution 986 (1995) and as revised by paragraph 2 of resolution 1153 (1998). Expenditures recorded for humanitarian goods approved by the Committee amounted to $3,979.8 million;

(c) The sum of $13,359.9 million has been transferred directly into the United Nations Compensation Fund, as specified in paragraph 8 (c) of resolution 986 (1995). As at 31 August 2001, a total of $224.9 million has been allotted to cover the operating expenditures of the Compensation Commission up to 31 December 2001 and an amount of $12,092.9 million had been allotted for payment of various instalments of A, C, D, E and F category claims;

(d) The sum of $855.8 million has been allocated for the operational and administrative expenses of the United Nations associated with the implementation of resolution 986 (1995), as specified in paragraph 8 (d) of the resolution. Expenditures for administrative costs for all United Nations entities involved in implementing the resolution amounted to $509.6 million;

(e) The sum of $333.2 million has been allocated for operating expenses of the United Nations Special Commission and its successor, the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC), established by Council resolution 1284 (1999), as specified in paragraph 8 (e) of Council resolution 986 (1995). Expenditures for the Commission amounted to $95.7 million;

(f) The sum of $919.2 million has been set aside for the transportation costs of petroleum and petroleum products originating in Iraq exported via the Kirkuk-Yumurtalik pipeline through Turkey, in accordance with paragraph 8 (f) of Council

resolution 986 (1995) and in line with procedures adopted by the Committee. Of that amount, $880.2 million has been paid to the Government of Turkey;

(g) The sum of $139.5 million has been transferred directly to the escrow account established pursuant to Council resolutions 706 (1991) and 712 (1991) for the repayments envisaged under paragraph 6 of resolution 778 (1992), as specified in paragraph 8 (g) of resolution 986 (1995) and subsequently in paragraph 34 of my report dated 1 February 1996 (S/1996/978). The total repayments made amounted to $139.5 million.

Annex II

Letters of credit pertaining to oil proceeds and humanitarian supplies, as at 31 August 2001

Oil proceeds

(United States dollars)

Phase	*Last deposit*	*Number of letters of credit opened*	*Value of letters of credit from oil sales (United States dollars)*
I	27 June 1997	123	2 149 806 395.99
II	2 January 1998	130	2 124 569 788.26
III	30 June 1998	186	2 085 326 345.25
IV	28 December 1998	280	3 027 147 422.35
V	25 June 1999	333	3 947 022 565.12
VI	23 December 1999	352	7 401 894 881.57
VII	10 July 2000	353	8 301 861 931.46
VIII	5 December 2000	319	8 296 257 148.06
Total		**2 076**	**37 333 886 478.06**

Oil proceeds

(Euros)

Phase	*Last deposit*	*Number of letters of credit opened*	*Value of letters of credit from oil sales (euros)*
VIII	29 December 2000	63	1 579 613 927.64
IX	5 July 2001	204	6 668 418 518.42
X	As at 31 August 2001	84	1 162 920 049.16
Total		**351**	**9 410 952 495.22**

Humanitarian supplies for the ESB (59 per cent) account and bulk procurement

Phase	*Number of letters of credit opened*	*Value of letters of credit opened (United States dollars)*	*Bank payments made on delivery (United States dollars)*
I	870	1 229 078 786.79	1 209 308 382.81
II	538	1 193 975 676.69	1 179 588 382.74
III	672	1 210 934 759.07	1 180 833 523.44
IV Humanitarian supplies	705	1 590 269 155.50	1 510 653 623.52
IV Oil spare parts	478	273 895 216.48	238 379 930.47
V Humanitarian supplies	1 046	1 865 029 623.18	1 594 928 612.98
V Oil spare parts	521	286 429 952.77	215 778 977.20
VI Humanitarian supplies	1 583	3 201 082 867.78	2 081 610 641.25
VI Oil spare parts	861	463 856 235.63	267 160 371.75
VII Humanitarian supplies	2 201	3 983 524 693.02	2 396 080 150.47
VII Oil spare parts	672	389 561 236.26	148 564 939.29
VIII Humanitarian supplies	1 412	4 000 152 365.02	1 672 319 606.93
VIII Oil spare parts	75	49 659 453.02	2 042 311.47
Total	**11 634**	**19 737 450 021.21**	**13 697 249 454.32**

Phase	*Number of letters of credit opened*	*Value of letters of credit opened (euros)*	*Bank payments made on delivery (euros)*
VIII Humanitarian supplies	127	257 895 635.52	6 056 430.23
VIII Oil spare parts	29	259 396 012.11	221 662.50
IX Humanitarian supplies	784	2 303 192 108.02	172 957 475.04
IX Oil spare parts	73	345 012 233.28	-
X Humanitarian supplies	14	29 181 141.82	-
X Oil spare parts			-
Total	**1 027**	**3 194 677 130.75**	**179 235 567.77**

Annex III

Status of ESB (59 per cent) account applications for all sectors, as at 15 September 2001

(Millions of United States dollars)

Sector	Total of distribution plan allocations	Applications received		Received vs allocated	Notified approved by United Nations Secretariat		Under processing[a]		Circulated to Committee[b]		Pending at the Committee		Approved by Committee		On hold		Block null void	On hold[c]	On hold[d]
	Value	No	Value	%	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	%	%
Humanitarian	30 978	14 133	29 576	95.47	2 579	6 081	373	1 475	9 822	22 020	0	0	8 765	18 492	1 057	3 528	1 359	16.02	12.56
Oil spare parts	3 600	4 424	3 217	89.37	575	601	433	481	3 240	2 136	0	0	2 768	1 612	472	524	176	24.53	19.15
Grand total	**34 578**	**18 557**	**32 794**	**94.84**	**3 154**	**6 681**	**806**	**1 956**	**13 062**	**24 156**	**0**	**0**	**11 533**	**20 104**	**1 529**	**4 052**	**1 535**	**16.77**	**13.14**

Status of ESC (13 per cent) account applications for all phases, as at 15 September 2001

(Millions of United States dollars)

	13 % account share of allocation	Funds allocated to United Nations[e]	Allocated to imports	Applications received		Notified approved by the United Nations Secretariat		Under processing[a]		Circulated to Committee[b]		Pending at the Committee		Approved by Committee		On hold		Null void	Total arrived
				No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value	No	Value		
Total	**5 874**	**3 208**	**1 679**	**4 211**	**1 144**	**219**	**83**	**146**	**30**	**3 656**	**1 031**	**0**	**0**	**3 654**	**1 031**	**2**	**0.27**	**190**	**839**

[a] Under processing includes non-compliant and inactive applications.

[b] Circulated to Committee = approved by Committee + pending + on hold.

[c] Holds as percentage of the value circulated.

[d] Holds as percentage of the value circulated + value notified/Office of the Iraq Programme approved.

[e] "Funds allocated to United Nations" is the balance of funds allocated to United Nations agencies and programmes, after the deduction of the share of the ESC (13 per cent) account for food, medicine/vaccines and oil spare parts which are procured under bulk-purchase arrangements by the Government of Iraq for the entire country.

Annex IV

Sectoral observation table for the period 1 May-31 August 2001

Sector	*Type of observation*			
	Tracking	*Assessment*	*End-use user*	*Total*
Food	23 987	39 680	0	63 667
Transport and food handling	254	118	239	611
Health	1 451	6	729	2 186
Nutrition	1 106	482	0	1 106[a]
Water and sanitation	938	118	1 225	1 321[b]
Agriculture	1 187	585	445	2 217
Electricity	91	204	95	390
Telecommunications	250	2	9	261
Education	769	367	50	1 186
Housing	11 437	3	0	11 440
Total	**41 379**	**41 361**	**1 986**	**84 244**

[a] The total number of visits differs from the sum of the visits by type since the assessments are done together with tracking during the same observation visit.

[b] The total number of visits differs from the sum of the visits by type since the special end-use/user chlorine tracking is done together with regular tracking of items during the same observation visit.

United Nations A/ES-10/113–S/2001/920

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
28 September 2001

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 28 September 2001 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I would like to share with you a few thoughts on the anniversary of the Palestinian uprising, which became known as the "Al-Aqsa intifada".

It was a highly controversial visit by the then Israeli opposition leader and now Prime Minister Mr. Ariel Sharon to the Al-Haram al-Sharif compound in Jerusalem and the forceful suppression of the ensuing protests that sparked 12 months of violence, of which we have apparently not seen the end yet. During those months, over 800 people lost their lives and thousands were injured, many incapacitated for life, the vast majority of them Palestinian civilians, including many children.

Israel reacted to the explosion of grievances and frustration by the Palestinians by using excessive force, including combat helicopter gunships, fighter aircraft and other sophisticated materiel, as well as by imposing a stifling economic blockade in order to crush the uprising. In addition to the tragic loss of human life, large parts of the Palestinian infrastructure have been systematically destroyed in the course of the year. Tens of thousands of people lost their livelihoods and hundreds of thousands became dependent for their survival on emergency humanitarian assistance offered by the international community. Moreover, this led to a virtual dismantling of the peace process, which since Madrid and then Oslo appeared to have been gradually heading towards a peaceful resolution of the conflict, albeit with occasional difficulties.

International efforts to end the violence and bring the parties back to the negotiating table continued over the past year, regrettably without lasting effect. Once again, on behalf of our Committee, allow me to take this opportunity to salute your close personal engagement in these efforts, which have been positively received by both parties and the broader international community. These intensive efforts led to the establishment of the Sharm el-Sheikh Fact-Finding Committee

01-55717 (E) 011001

headed by former United States Senator George Mitchell and the publication of its report, which set out a series of steps the parties had to take in order to end the violence and resume negotiations. Regrettably, Israel's selective and piecemeal approach to the Mitchell Committee recommendations and its insistence on security issues has not allowed implementation to proceed, as it should, in an integrated way, combining security and confidence-building measures with longer-term issues. The understandings reached by the parties with the assistance of the United States Director of Central Intelligence George Tenet aimed to create a security framework, within which the Mitchell report could start being implemented. This effort was also largely inconclusive owing to preconditions set by the Israeli side.

The meeting between Chairman Arafat and Foreign Minister Peres at Gaza International Airport, on 26 September 2001, was a welcome development and was met by the international community, including our Committee, with great satisfaction. As you mentioned on the occasion through your Spokesman, we were all encouraged by the reiteration by the parties of their full commitment to implementing the recommendations of the Mitchell report and the Tenet understandings. It is much hoped that the important agreements reached at the meeting between Chairman Arafat and Foreign Minister Peres, as outlined in their joint communiqué, will enable the parties to resume full security cooperation leading to a permanent cessation of violence and the resumption of comprehensive negotiations between the two sides.

Cautiously optimistic as we may allow ourselves to be under the circumstances, we should not lose sight of the problems lying at the heart of the question of Palestine, which will have to be tackled for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region to be achieved. Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which embody the principle of "land for peace", should be the basis of any solution. This was reaffirmed in recent months by the Security Council in its resolution 1322 (2000) of 10 October 2000 and by the General Assembly at its tenth emergency special session in its resolution ES-10/7 of 20 October 2000.

Since its inception in 1975, our Committee has maintained that the core of the problem has been the continuing illegal occupation by Israel of the Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Once again, we call upon the Government of Israel to abide by the principles of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and the provisions of all relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. Illegal Israeli policies such as settlement activity, extrajudicial killings of suspected Palestinian activists, and closures of and incursions into Palestinian areas should be stopped forthwith and faits accomplis on the ground should be reversed. The inalienable rights of the Palestinian people should be respected and the Palestinians should be able to live in an independent State of their own, in peace with Israel and the other neighbouring countries.

The Committee has been extremely worried over developments in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, especially since late September 2000. In the light of the continuing violations by Israel of international law and of its agreements with the Palestinian side, the Committee remains gravely concerned that the Israeli Government has not been able to embrace fully and unequivocally the fundamental principle of land for peace and apply in practice the commitments and obligations it entered into at Madrid and Oslo. As the crisis persists and the

parties continue to lack mutual trust and confidence, assistance by key international actors, including the co-sponsors of the peace process, the European Union and leaders in the regions, the United Nations and yourself remains crucial.

It is also the firm position of our Committee that, at this critical juncture, the United Nations should continue to maintain its permanent responsibility with respect to all aspects of the question of Palestine, until it is resolved in a satisfactory manner, in conformity with relevant United Nations resolutions, in accordance with international legitimacy, and until the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are fully realized.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Papa Louis **Fall**
Chairman
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable
Rights of the Palestinian People

United Nations S/2001/921

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 September 2001

Original: English

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its resolutions 1269 (1999) of 19 October 1999 and 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001,

Reaffirming also its unequivocal condemnation of the terrorist attacks which took place in New York, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania on 11 September 2001, and expressing its determination to prevent all such acts,

Reaffirming further that such acts, like any act of international terrorism, constitute a threat to international peace and security,

Reaffirming the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence as recognized by the Charter of the United Nations as reiterated in resolution 1368 (2001),

Reaffirming the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

Deeply concerned by the increase, in various regions of the world, of acts of terrorism motivated by intolerance or extremism,

Calling on States to work together urgently to prevent and suppress terrorist acts, including through increased cooperation and full implementation of the relevant international conventions relating to terrorism,

Recognizing the need for States to complement international cooperation by taking additional measures to prevent and suppress, in their territories through all lawful means, the financing and preparation of any acts of terrorism,

Reaffirming the principle established by the General Assembly in its declaration of October 1970 (resolution 2625 (XXV)) and reiterated by the Security Council in its resolution 1189 (1998) of 13 August 1998, namely that every State has the duty to refrain from organizing, instigating, assisting or participating in terrorist acts in another State or acquiescing in organized activities within its territory directed towards the commission of such acts,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* that all States shall:

(a) Prevent and suppress the financing of terrorist acts;

01-55737 (E) 280901

(b) Criminalize the wilful provision or collection, by any means, directly or indirectly, of funds by their nationals or in their territories with the intention that the funds should be used, or in the knowledge that they are to be used, in order to carry out terrorist acts;

(c) Freeze without delay funds and other financial assets or economic resources of persons who commit, or attempt to commit, terrorist acts or participate in or facilitate the commission of terrorist acts; of entities owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such persons; and of persons and entities acting on behalf of, or at the direction of such persons and entities, including funds derived or generated from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such persons and associated persons and entities;

(d) Prohibit their nationals or any persons and entities within their territories from making any funds, financial assets or economic resources or financial or other related services available, directly or indirectly, for the benefit of persons who commit or attempt to commit or facilitate or participate in the commission of terrorist acts, of entities owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such persons and of persons and entities acting on behalf of or at the direction of such persons;

2. *Decides also* that all States shall:

(a) Refrain from providing any form of support, active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts, including by suppressing recruitment of members of terrorist groups and eliminating the supply of weapons to terrorists;

(b) Take the necessary steps to prevent the commission of terrorist acts, including by provision of early warning to other States by exchange of information;

(c) Deny safe haven to those who finance, plan, support, or commit terrorist acts, or provide safe havens;

(d) Prevent those who finance, plan, facilitate or commit terrorist acts from using their respective territories for those purposes against other States or their citizens;

(e) Ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice and ensure that, in addition to any other measures against them, such terrorist acts are established as serious criminal offences in domestic laws and regulations and that the punishment duly reflects the seriousness of such terrorist acts;

(f) Afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal proceedings relating to the financing or support of terrorist acts, including assistance in obtaining evidence in their possession necessary for the proceedings;

(g) Prevent the movement of terrorists or terrorist groups by effective border controls and controls on issuance of identity papers and travel documents, and through measures for preventing counterfeiting, forgery or fraudulent use of identity papers and travel documents;

3. *Calls* upon all States to:

(a) Find ways of intensifying and accelerating the exchange of operational information, especially regarding actions or movements of terrorist persons or networks; forged or falsified travel documents; traffic in arms, explosives or sensitive materials; use of communications technologies by terrorist groups; and the threat posed by the possession of weapons of mass destruction by terrorist groups;

(b) Exchange information in accordance with international and domestic law and cooperate on administrative and judicial matters to prevent the commission of terrorist acts;

(c) Cooperate, particularly through bilateral and multilateral arrangements and agreements, to prevent and suppress terrorist attacks and take action against perpetrators of such acts;

(d) Become parties as soon as possible to the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism of 9 December 1999;

(e) Increase cooperation and fully implement the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism and Security Council resolutions 1269 (1999) and 1368 (2001);

(f) Take appropriate measures in conformity with the relevant provisions of national and international law, including international standards of human rights, before granting refugee status, for the purpose of ensuring that the asylum-seeker has not planned, facilitated or participated in the commission of terrorist acts;

(g) Ensure, in conformity with international law, that refugee status is not abused by the perpetrators, organizers or facilitators of terrorist acts, and that claims of political motivation are not recognized as grounds for refusing requests for the extradition of alleged terrorists;

4. *Notes* with concern the close connection between international terrorism and transnational organized crime, illicit drugs, money-laundering, illegal arms-trafficking, and illegal movement of nuclear, chemical, biological and other potentially deadly materials, and in this regard *emphasizes* the need to enhance coordination of efforts on national, subregional, regional and international levels in order to strengthen a global response to this serious challenge and threat to international security;

5. *Declares* that acts, methods, and practices of terrorism are contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations and that knowingly financing, planning and inciting terrorist acts are also contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

6. *Decides* to establish, in accordance with rule 28 of its provisional rules of procedure, a Committee of the Security Council, consisting of all the members of the Council, to monitor implementation of this resolution, with the assistance of appropriate expertise, and *calls upon* all States to report to the Committee, no later than 90 days from the date of adoption of this resolution and thereafter according to a timetable to be proposed by the Committee, on the steps they have taken to implement this resolution;

7. *Directs* the Committee to delineate its tasks, submit a work programme within 30 days of the adoption of this resolution, and to consider the support it requires, in consultation with the Secretary-General;

8. *Expresses* its determination to take all necessary steps in order to ensure the full implementation of this resolution, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter;

9. *Decides* to remain seized of this matter.

United Nations S/2001/922

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 September 2001
English
Original: French

Letter dated 25 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement concerning the development of the situation in the Mano River Union countries issued on 24 September 2001 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jean **De Ruyt**
Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations

01-55710 (E) 011001 011001

Annex to the letter dated 25 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement concerning the development of the situation in the Mano River Union countries issued on 24 September 2001 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union expresses its satisfaction about the progress made in the dialogue between the three Mano River Union countries, in particular at the recent meetings held by their Ministers for Foreign Affairs in Monrovia, Freetown and Conakry.

The European Union welcomes the statements made and the commitments entered into at those meetings concerning, in particular, joint action by those States against the groups involved in the events which destabilize the region, the establishment of a joint patrol at the borders between the three countries and combating the proliferation of small arms. It calls on the Mano River Union countries to make progress on those issues as quickly as possible.

The European Union also welcomes the prospect of a meeting between the heads of State of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone in January 2002, as proposed by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

The European Union wishes to assure the three heads of State of its support in their search for a solution to the conflicts persisting in the subregion. It reiterates its willingness to contribute to the dialogue between their countries, in particular through the Presidency's Special Representative for West Africa, Hans Dahlgren.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

United Nations S/2001/923

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 September 2001
English
Original: Arabic/English

Identical letters dated 26 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

With reference to the identical letters dated 27 August 2001 addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations (S/2001/823), I have the honour to state that I have received instructions from my Government to inform you that the Iraqi authorities are continuing their practice of violating Saudi territory in violation of the relevant boundary agreements and international covenants. I should accordingly like to convey to you the following:

At 11 p.m. on 25 August 2001, five armed Iraqis infiltrated from Iraqi territory and penetrated some 800 metres into the Kingdom's territory. At the time, a three-man Saudi Frontier Force patrol from the Kasr post was in position alongside the Saudi asphalt pipeline. The infiltrators came upon the patrol unexpectedly and fired on it, so that Private Sa'd bin Ali al-Silbi was shot. He was dragged into Iraqi territory by them, and it is still not known whether he was still alive or had died of his wounds.

The site of the incident, which took place inside Saudi territory, was photographed. It shows traces where the wounded Saudi soldier was dragged and traces of his blood. The spent ammunition left by the Iraqi infiltrators has also been preserved.

This act of aggression is not the first in which Iraqi forces have violated the Kingdom's borders in an attempt to create an atmosphere of tension and to invent stories that flout the truth and do no kind of service to international peace and security. These Iraqi attacks have been recurrent, and the most recent of them was that reported to you at the time it occurred in my letter of 29 May 2001 (S/2001/547).

That the Government of Iraq violated Saudi territory is confirmed by the fact that my Government received a note from the Arabian peninsula office of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Kuwait informing it that ICRC had received a request from the Iraqi Government through its office in Baghdad that it should oversee the handing over of the body of the Saudi soldier, Private Sa'd al-Silbi, to Saudi Arabia. This confirms that the Iraqi authorities had abducted him and had killed him inside Iraqi territory, as shown by the evidence previously cited.

The Iraqis designated a time for the body of the slain Saudi soldier to be handed over at the Judaydah post on the Saudi Arabia-Iraq boundary, namely 9 a.m.

01-55787 (E) 021001 021001

on 4 September 2001. My Government immediately acceded to this request, coordinated its action with ICRC and took all the required measures. Regrettably, however, the Iraqis did not appear at the agreed location to hand over the body. This provides further evidence of Iraq's lack of concern and indifference with regard to humanitarian aspects, which has always characterized its handling of the issue of prisoners and detainees, and of the fact that it adopts an approach of procrastination and delay in dealing with such matters.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia holds Iraq fully responsible for the fate of the Saudi soldier Sa'd al-Silbi, and it urges Iraq to return his body as quickly as possible.

This aggression and the Iraqi violations of Saudi territory that preceded it indicate that Iraq is persisting in its threats to peace and security in the region. Saudi Arabia thus finds it necessary to inform the United Nations of the facts and circumstances of these violations, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security. In informing the United Nations and the Security Council of the facts concerning the Iraqi acts of aggression in order to urge Iraq to refrain from such actions and from violations of its borders, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia affirms its inalienable right to defend its territory and its citizens in the ways it deems appropriate under international law.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Fawzi Bin Abdul Majeed **Shobokshi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2001/924

Security Council

Distr.: General
1 October 2001

Original: English

Letter dated 1 October 2001 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia, I have the honour to transmit herewith the copy of a letter dated 27 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Liberia to the United Nations (see annex).

I would appreciate it if the text of the present letter and its annex could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kishore **Mahbubani**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant
to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia

01-55881 (E) 011001

Annex to the letter dated 1 October 2001 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith the text of a self-explanatory letter dated 20 September 2001 addressed to you by Monie R. Captan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Liberia (see enclosure).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its enclosure circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Lami **Kawah**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Enclosure

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter reference S/AC.39/2001/OC.62 dated 10 September 2001, in response to my letter dated 11 June 2001. I have noted carefully the contents of your response on behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001).

I was disappointed that your response did not address the essential concern of the Government of Liberia with respect to the criteria used by the Security Council in compiling its list of persons affected by said resolution. You will agree with me that the Security Council must at the minimum exercise transparency and equity in its decision-making, particularly as it has implications for the fundamental human rights of our citizens.

Further, I must observe that the response from the Committee does not give the Government or the people whose names are on the list, and who believe in justice, the minimal level of comfort or confidence, in the reversal of the normally accepted concept of innocence until proven guilty.

Nevertheless, I am pleased to note the reaffirmation of the Committee's willingness to continue its policy of constructive engagement with the Government of the Republic of Liberia. It is our hope and anticipation that our engagement can ensue in the spirit of transparency and equity.

May I once again request that your Committee apprise the Liberian Government of the criteria used in compiling the list of persons affected by paragraph 7 of resolution 1343 (2001).

(*Signed*) Monie R. **Captan**
Minister

United Nations

S/2001/925

Security Council

Distr.: General
2 October 2001
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 1 October 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 1 October 2001 from Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Acting Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait, concerning the serious charges and false allegations levelled at Kuwait by Iraq in the letter dated 19 September 2001 addressed to you by its Minister for Foreign Affairs (S/2001/899, annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad A. **Abulhasan**
Permanent Representative

01-56004 (E) 021001 021001

Annex to the letter dated 1 October 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I refer to the letter dated 19 September 2001 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to you (S/2001/899, annex), which again levels serious charges and false allegations at Kuwait and calls into question the resolutions of the Security Council. I should like in this connection to call your attention to the following:

1. Any activity undertaken by the State of Kuwait in order to exploit and develop its natural resources at any location in its territory and within its internationally recognized boundaries is subject to Kuwait's absolute sovereignty alone. This is something that Iraq also does when it exercises sovereignty throughout its territory.

2. Iraq alleges that Kuwait is depleting the oilfields on the Kuwaiti side of the border between the two countries and that this action causes the migration of Iraqi oil to the Kuwaiti fields. In this connection, the Iraqi letter states that Kuwait has few wells in the Ratqah and Abdali fields and that the daily output of those wells was no more than a few thousand barrels prior to 1990. In fact, the letter constitutes a condemnation of the Government of Iraq and represents an explicit acknowledgement of the falsity of the allegations made in the letter dated 17 July 1990 from Minister for Foreign Affairs Tariq Aziz addressed to the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, which affirmed that Kuwait had stolen Iraqi oil worth 2.4 billion United States dollars. Iraq used these false charges and allegations as a justification and a pretext for its invasion of the State of Kuwait on 2 August 1990.

3. Iraq claims that international sanctions are preventing it from exploiting the oilfields on the Iraqi side of the border with Kuwait and are impeding activities to develop its petroleum industry. This does not accord with reality, inasmuch as Iraq is engaging in wide-ranging oil-related activity along the Iraqi side of the boundary, as is stated in paragraph 10 of the periodic report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the activities of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission that was circulated in March 2001 (S/2001/287). Furthermore, this allegation does not accord with Security Council resolution 1293 (2000) of 31 March 2000, by which the Council, at the recommendation of the Secretary-General, doubles, to 600 million dollars, the allocations for the oil sector in each phase under the oil-for-food programme in order to develop Iraq's petroleum industry. According to the weekly reports of the Office of the Iraq Programme, oil-related spare parts and equipment worth 900 million dollars have reached Iraq since the commencement of the humanitarian programme and equipment worth 1.3 billion dollars is on the way. This is despite the deliberate dilatoriness of the Iraqi Government in concluding contracts for the purchase of the items in question.

Iraq's allegation that there is migration of oil from the Iraqi fields on the Iraqi side of the border to the Kuwaiti fields on the Kuwaiti side is refuted by the technical and scientific facts, which confirm the very opposite. Prior to 1990, Iraq engaged in intensive oil production over a period of more than 40 years in the Rumaylah and Zubayr fields at a time when it was possible for Kuwait to produce only very little oil. This depleted the reserves in the oil reservoirs and thence there was migration of oil from the Kuwaiti side to the Iraqi side.

With regard to Iraq's charge that Kuwait is interfering in its internal affairs, I should like to state that Kuwait's constant policy has been based on the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States, while it is Iraq that committed a crime of invasion and aggression unprecedented in Arab history and that occupied the State of Kuwait in 1990. Iraq's policy of hostility towards Kuwait and its neighbours and of interference in their internal affairs remains in place, and this creates a constant focus of tension in the region. Perhaps the most salient feature of this policy is that the Iraqi authorities have organized assemblages of Iraqis along the border with Kuwait, claiming that these people are Kuwaiti nationals and that Kuwait is refusing to allow them to return to the country. The Iraqi authorities have likewise established an organization to which they have given the name "Kuwaiti League of Truth". Iraq has also instructed its security elements to infiltrate into Kuwait in order to engage in terrorist acts and espionage.

By persistently adhering to this hostile approach Iraq is only seeking to evade its obligations with respect to compliance with the relevant international resolutions, and this poses a threat to security and stability in the region. On this basis, the State of Kuwait denies in the strongest terms these repeated Iraqi charges. It calls upon you, by virtue of your responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, to urge Iraq to desist from pursuing this approach, to renounce the aggressive and provocative practices that pose a serious threat to the security and stability of the State of Kuwait and to comply with all the relevant international resolutions.

(*Signed*) Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber **Al-Sabah**
Acting Prime Minister
Minister for Foreign Affairs